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The Canadian INDIA TIMES

(The national voice of Indo-Canadians)

Joe Clark to India

Opposition leader, JOE CLARK is visiting India as part of his tour of Asia and will be in India on January 11.

Mrs.Gandhi released

New Delhi, Dec. 27 - Former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi emerged from a week's stay in prison yesterday, looking jaunty and well rested and disclaiming any responsibility for a week of violent demonstrations and a jetliner hijacking staged in her support.

"I don't think our people indulged in violence, certainly not our people, only agents provocateurs, certainly not our people," she told reporters shortly after walking out of the Tihar jail here.

Almost 2,000 exultant supporters cheered and tossed bouquets at her when she appeared at the jail gate.

The 61-year-old opposition leader dismissed as "purely politically motivated" Parliament's vote last Tuesday to expel and jail her for interfering with a 1975 legislative probe of her son Sanjay's automobile business.

Mrs. Gandhi's arrest stirred a week of agitation in which at least 16 people died, hundreds were injured, buses were burned, Government buildings attacked and more than 120,000 of her supporters were arrested.

The lower house of Parliament had voted 279-138 to send Mrs. Gandhi to prison until the end of the session for breach of privilege and contempt of Parliament. The house also expelled her from the parliamentary seat she won last month in a by-election in southern India.

The major formality allowing her release was completed yesterday when President Sanjiva Reddy, signed official documents closing the current session of Parliament.

Mrs. Gandhi said yesterday that if she decided to re-enter Parliament, her first choice would be to contest the vacancy created by her expulsion, the south Indian district of Chikmagalur.

She was scornful of the faction-ridden Desai Government. "I think it's obvious to everybody, isn't it, that there isn't much government in this country," she said. [AP]

Mrs. Indira Gandhi being escorted out through Gate No. 5 of the Parliament House to the waiting car on her way to Tihar jail on December 20th.

Arya Samaj to be political

Rewari (IBS) - Swami Agnivesh, convenor of the Rashtriya Maha sammelan, has said that the Arya Samaj would create a "third political force" in the country by organising farmers and workers to bring about total revolution on the lines of Vedic socialism.

Also a member of the Haryana Assembly, Agnivesh said that the 100-year old social reformist movement has so far been working for the removal of social evils such as casteism, dowry and child marriage. But now with the beginning of its second phase it would aim at bringing about an economic revolution by working as a social economic political movement.

60 million buffaloes

New Delhi - India with 60 million buffaloes leads the world, according to Dr. D. Sunderesan, Director, National Dairy Research Institute.

He told a seminar that China, Thailand and Philippines together have 40 million while Pakistan has an estimated 10 million. The world population of buffaloes, he said was 130 million.

Western countries such as Bulgaria, Italy, Brazil, USSR have a small population of buffaloes.

Sanjay not to enter politics

New Delhi, Jan. 1 (UNI): Mrs. Indira Gandhi today reiterated that her son Sanjay Gandhi did not wish to be in politics.

She was commenting on a newspaper report which had quoted her as saying that Sanjay Gandhi had not quit politics.

She said in a statement: "in spite of my repeated statements there is persistent and tendentious propaganda on this subject aimed at maligning both Sanjay and me."

"I should like to make it clear once again that Sanjay himself has categorically stated that he does not wish to be in politics. This statement was widely publicised and I also have reiterated it".

Mr. Gandhi added: "there are many ways of serving the country and the people other than by being in politics. I have had too hard a life to wish it for my children."

Muddle that is Janata

The Janata Party went through an "introspection" session recently (November 14-17), but this turned out to be an exhibition of internal recrimination. This was a "closed door" convention of Janata leaders at which many of them sought out the reporters to air their views. Newspapers willingly obliged.

The Ujjain (Madhya Pradesh) convention clearly brought out the demoralising impact of recent Chikmagalur by-election where Mrs. Gandhi won a seat in the Lok Sabha.

Judging by the massive and uninhibited attacks on Government policy and leadership, it would seem that disillusionment has spread even among several important Janata Party leaders and functionaries.

When a government's credibility or image is at stake, there is bound to be strong pressure upon the Prime Minister to get involved. And not surprisingly, some of the barbs were clearly directed at Morarji Desai himself. His hurt feelings came out in the form of an emotional outpouring with traces of self-pity. In anguish, he implored the conclave to "demolish me", but not the Janata Party."

A government is elected to do things, to get on with the job, if it fails, then it is the fault of the government not of the Press as Desai would have the newspapers believe. Newspapers however free they may be cannot make people believe what is non-existent and disbelieve what is existent. The Press has rejected Desai's charge that newspapers needlessly tend to "sensationalise" the "faults" of the Janata Party and Government.

The running theme of the Ujjain convention was that the government paid lip service to the commitments made by the party to the people in March 1977, and had shown no enthusiasm on its part to ensure that these promises were kept. The suggestion was also made that the government did not really know what the party stood for, if it did not know, it was either disbelieving or indifferent, and perhaps even moving in the opposite direction.

Government leaders found it difficult to shake off the criticism loudly made at Ujjain against its failure. The plea that the government has had too little time to do anything significant found few takers. A speaker quoted Harold Wilson as having once said, "even a week is a long time in politics". By this token, 21 months of Janata rule must be regarded too long a time to have achieved nothing tangible.

Recrimination and self-pity are not productive of ideas. There was no serious effort at Ujjain to analyse the Chikmagalur defeat or to outline a plan of action for the future which might have served the party well hereafter.

Such guidelines as have emerged are no more than vague expression of good intentions: concern for the poor, anxiety about growing unemployment, the wide prevalence of illiteracy and a slightly more than ritualistic reference to prohibition. Taken together or separately, they do not add up to anything like a policy outline. Clearly, the leaders had not done their homework.

Janata Party President Chandra Shekhar has denied that he and the Prime Minister were ever at loggerheads or that the party faces a crisis of confidence.

However, in the course of his Presidential address, Chandra Shekhar's criticism of the Janata Government's performance was scathing enough to suggest that the party and the Government were at odds with each other. He picked holes in almost every major aspect of the Government's economic policy to prove his proposition that "people are disenchanted with the Government. Every section is getting disillusioned".

But even Chandra Shekhar had little to offer by way of remedial action. In the context of his further statement, that if necessary a change in the leadership of the Government would have to be considered, the drift of the Janata President's message added up to despair.

Ujjain convention did little to dispel the impression that Janata is still a conglomerate of political factions and group interests.

The absence of Charan Singh and his followers as well as of Jagjiwan Ram and other leaders only reinforced the impression of the party being in disarray.

Chandra Shekhar also ruled out the possibility of his continuing as party President for another term. This has left the Janata Party in a state of uncertainty.

McMurtry to visit India

Ontario Attorney-General Roy McMurtry will visit India this month as the guest of the Indian Government's Council for Cultural Relations. He will leave Jan. 9 and return Jan. 28 after visiting several Indian cities, including New Delhi, Bombay and Madras. An aide said the Indian Government invited Mr. McMurtry because of the increasing number of people moving to Ontario from India. His parliamentary assistant, Norman Sterling (PC, Carleton-Grenville), and executive assistant, John Rowsome, will accompany Mr. McMurtry, as will Dr. Aitzahed Ubale, a member of the Ontario Human Rights Commission, and Simon Chester, executive counsel to the deputy Attorney-General.

Roy McMurtry

Spirit worship

New Delhi (IBS) - About 500 spirits, including some of Chinese origin, are worshipped on the West Coast of India, mainly in the area extending from Mangalore to Calicut, according to a study by a German scholar Dr. Valentina Stache-Rosen.

The scholar, who specialises in Eastern studies, says spirit worship and ritual dances prevalent in North Malabar and South Kanara areas, covering the Malayalam, Tulu and Kannada speaking people, represented a unique cult of pre-historic origin. This could be linked to the worship of mother goddess in the ancient Egyptian civilisation, according to her.

Stache-Rosen has also said that the entry of Brahamanism into this part of the Western coast did not fully destroy the prehistoric traditions. Instead, some of the gods of the Hindu or Prahamic pantheon found their place in the cult of "bhuthams and theyyams," she adds.

Bulgarian trade

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI) - The Indo-Bulgarian trade in rupee payment ended on December 31.

All trade and transactions between the two countries will be concluded or settled with effect from January 1, 1979 in freely convertible currency mutually agreed upon between the contracting parties.

Unique temple

Mangalore, Dec. 30 (UNI): The coastal town of Bappanad about 30 km from here, has a Durga temple which looks like any other but is quite unique.

It was built in 1168 A.D. by a prosperous Muslim trader and has since been open to both Muslims and Hindus. When the temple was recently renovated donations came from both Muslims and Hindus.

One of the six vice-presidents of the temple renovation committee was M.B. Noor Mohammad.

Standing close to the temple is a mosque also built by the trader, Bappa Beary, after whom the town is named. On occasions of special worship prasadam is ceremonially carried in a palanquin to "dodamane" — the house Bappa Beary built.

Many legends have gained currency about how the temple came to be built. One of them is that Bappa Beary, a trader from Kerala was sailing forth with his merchandise when his dhow flunndered off the coast of Bappanad. All his efforts to refloat the vessel were in vain and Bappa Beary slept in the dhow.

Goddess Durga appeared to him in a dream and said that he would be able to set sail next morning provided he built a temple, which he promised to do.

The trader sailed north and sold his merchandise at five time its price.

Boon to asthma patients

New Delhi, (UNI)— Jangli Pikavan (antamul) has been found to have great beneficial effects on a majority patients suffering from asthma.

The plant — tylophora-indica — has, since long, been in use in folk medicine in India as an emetic, antiasthmatic and anti-dysentric agent.

During a recent study carried by Dr. D.N. Shivpuri, director, National Allergy Centre, to verify its anti-asthmatic properties, 60 per cent of patients experienced relief.

No other known anti-asthmatic agent, administered in small doses for such a short period, produced as much prolonged relief in so many patients as did the plant's leaves and their alcoholic extract or purified alkaloids, Dr. Shivpuri told UNI.

Dr. Shivpuri, a receipient of the B.C. Roy national award, began his investigations on the plant's therapeutic properties in 1966. The investigations covered its pharmacological, immunological and clinicial aspects. After conducting acute toxicity tests and immunological experiments, a preliminary study was done on 56 patients to verify whether the plant has any therapeutic effect in nasobronchial allergy.

Each patient was given a leaf daily for six days which he chewed and swallowed every morning before breakfast. Though the plant did not "cure" asthma, as claimed by some, it exhibited the "extraordinary moderate" symptomatic relief in about 60 per cent of the patients. Side effects were minimal.

The plant is a boon to poor asthmatic patients who cannot afford expensive medicines, says Dr. Shivpuri.

Taj modelled on Delhi tomb

New Delhi, Dec. 29 (UNI): The architecture of Taj Mahal, considered the world's most beautiful building, was borrowed not from any grand buildings in Samarkhand, but from a modest tomb in Delhi, according to R. Sengupta, director (conservation) archaeological survey of India.

The tomb, which has long been in a descrepit condition, stands at a traffic junction in front of Humayun's tomb in South Delhi, and is currently undergoing extensive repairs.

Mr. Sengupta told UNI that the tomb was the only one in India having a typical timurid dome. "The singular style of the dome ushered in a new pattern which became the hallmark of the Mughal architecture in India."

"The technique of construction was improved upon later by the Mughals and the shape made more sophisticated as to be found in the Taj."

Known as Sabz Burj, the tomb is a modest structure of dressed rubble with an irregular octagonal plan, its four longer sides each having rectangular doorway framed by an arch of tudor type. The short sides have tall alcoves of half-octagon.

Inside the alcoves are painting and cut-plaster work reproducing arabesque and geometric designs.

Its crowning glory is a domineering dome of unusual shape.

It was probably built by Babar but it is not known who was buried in the grave at the centre of the tomb.

States to be richer

New Delhi (IBS) — The Government has accepted the seventh Finance Commission's recommendation that the transfer of funds from the Centre to the States should be more than doubled in the five-year period 1979-84 to a total of Rs. 230,620 million.

This munificence will leave the States with a net revenue surplus of about Rs. 124,090 million over the five year period. As a consequence, execution of their plans, as their dependence on Central assistance will be reduced considerably.

The principal device for achieving the big transfer of funds is the doubling of the States' share of basic excise duty from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. Excise duty is the fastest growing source of Central revenue.

The States' share of income tax has also been increased form 80 per cent to 85 per cent.

Kannada poet dead

Gulbarga (IBS) — Prof. Dattatraye Herur, multi-lingual poet, popularly known as "Herur Master", died here Dec. 1. He was 72.

Herur had written 40 plays in Kannada and rendered the Ramacharita-Manasa of Tulsidas and verses of Surdas into Kannada in original metre.

The Hijacked IA Boeing-737 on its return to New Delhi on December 31 after being released by the Hijackers. All the 126 passengers, the 6 member crew and the plane were safe.

Lost no

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI six-member scientists' com headed by Dr. Atma Chairman of the National mittee on Science and Tech (NCST), has concluded tha is no danger to radio contamination from nu powered remote sensing lost over Nanda Devi.

The Committee's report receiving final touches.

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The Committee was appoi May and was to submit the in three months. However was extended due to large of work involved.

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$6 billion

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Bomba

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Lost N-device no danger

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI) - The six-member scientists' committee headed by Dr. Atma Ram, Chairman of the National Committee on Science and Technology (NCST), has concluded that there is no danger to radio-active contamination from nuclear-powered remote sensing device lost over Nanda Devi.

The Committee's report is now receiving final touches.

According to informed sources, the report may be submitted to the Government in a month or two.

The Committee was appointed in May and was to submit the report in three months. However, time was extended due to large volume of work involved.

The Committee went through the literature on the subject, including that supplied by the United States Government. It also interviewed officials connected with the installation of the device over Nanda Devi. The Committee studied the maps of the area and examined reports on analysis of soil and water samples, taken from the vicinity of the power pack, by scientists of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Bombay.

All the efforts made to locate the lost device have failed. The samples analysed so far showed no sign of radio activity in the area.

To allay public fears, however, the Committee has recommended a regular monitoring programme including study of samples of water, flora and fauna, soil, and air.

It is presumed that the device is lying buried deep in some crevice on Nanda Devi.

The Committee has concluded that even if the plutonium from the pack disintegrates, it would not be sufficient to contaminate Ganga or other rivers.

By the time the plutonium reaches the rivers, it would have been considerably diluted, the radio activity falling below the permissible safety limit.

$6 billion foreign reserves

New Delhi - India's foreign exchange reserves touched the all-time high of nearly Rs 50,000 million ($6,000 million) at the end of November, 1978.

Disclosing this in the Indian Parliament recently, Finance Minister H.M. Patel gave figures to indicate the fast pace of increase in reserves since April 1977.

He said foreign exchange reserve had risen from Rs. 28,739 million on April 1, 1977 to Rs. 44,997 million on April 1, 1978 and further to nearly Rs. 50,000 million at the end of November last.

Bombay mobs violent

New Delhi, Dec. 25 - Indira Gandhi spent Christmas Eve alone in Delhi's Tihar jail while supporters in Bombay set fire to buses and other vehicles to protest against the former prime minister's arrest.

Mrs. Gandhi's son, Rajiv, said his mother hurriedly wrapped gifts for her grandchildren after Parliament voted last Tuesday to sentence and jail her on charges of contempt and breach of parliamentary privilege. She allegedly blocked a 1975 investigation of an auto firm run by Rajiv's younger brother, Sanjay, 32, while she was prime minister.

It became virtually certain yesterday that Mrs. Gandhi, 61, would remain in jail for at least a week.

In Bombay, mobs set fire to 132 buses, tried to burn train coaches and stoned cars as the city observed a 17-hour work stoppage called by opposition leaders to protest against the visit of Prime Minister Morarji Desai, the United News of India reported. At least 200 persons were arrested when they waved black flags at Mr. Desai in front of a Bombay polytechnic institute.

The news agency also said 500 pro-Gandhi protesters were arrested in demonstrations yesterday in Uttar Pradesh, a northern state.

Elsewhere, the national agitation appeared to subside.

Mrs. Gandhi began her jail term on Tuesday for what at the time was expected to be three or four days - until the end of the parliamentary session. The delay was caused by a pileup of parliamentary business for which her own supporters were partly to blame.

The lower house of Parliament which sentenced her, met for an extra day on Saturday to debate a plane hijacking staged by two young men with fake pistols demanding Mrs. Gandhi's release.

Meanwhile, the opposition-controlled upper house stalled at least until tomorrow a $1-billion appropriation bill that must clear both houses in identical form.

IRRIGATION EXPERT DEAD

New Delhi (IBS) - N.D. Gulhati, internationally-known irrigation engineer, died here Wednesday, Dec. 20, following a heart attack. He was 74.

Eve teasing under control

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI) - The Government claimed that the problem of eve-teasing is well under control.

Replying to a question in the upper house (Rajya Sabha), Minister of State for Home, S.D. Patil said that no specific complaints had been received in regard to any harrassment to women driving cars.

He, however said special steps continued to be taken to prevent eve-teasing and other forms of harassment to women. These included checking of suspected vehicles found moving during late hours, deployment of uniformed and plain clothsmen at bus stops, cinemas, hotels, girls institutions, railway stations, parks and commercial centres, setting up of special squads in all the districts, intensifying night and day patrolling and keeping surveillance on habitual eve-teasers.

EMS' son missing

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI) - S. Sashi, 24, son of the CPI(M) leader E.M.S. Namboodiripad has been reported missing according to police.

A formal complaint was lodged at about 12.15 p.m. with the police and the missing person squad informed soon after.

Mr. Shashi had reportedly gone to Jayaprakash Narayan Hospital from his office and since then his whereabouts are not known.

Police reported no trace of the missing son of the marxist leader but said a massive search was on to locate him.

Police said they had searched for him in all the hospitals here and drawn a blank. His description was also relayed over radio and television.

MAN MATTERS NOT MATTER

New Delhi (IBS) - C.V. Raman made the Nobel Prize-winning discovery in 1928, using equipment whose total cost did not exceed Rs. 200.

This was stated by R.S. Krishnan, of the Indian Institute of Science, while delivering the K.S. Krishnan Memorial lecture at the National Physical Laboratory here.

Test tube baby claim doubted

Calcutta, Dec. 30 (UNI) - The claim of the three medical scientists on the birth of the world's second test-tube baby has reportedly been held as "unconvincing and disappointing" by the six-member expert committee, headed by Prof. M.K. Dasgupta, head of the department of radio physics and electronics.

The committee, appointed by the West Bengal government about a month ago, submitted its report to the state health minister, Nani Bhattacharya. The report is stated to be unanimous.

According to informed sources, the expert committee has thoroughly examined the two-page report submitted to the government earlier by the three scientists responsible for the baby's birth and held three sessions with them. But the scientists — Dr. Subhas Mukherjee, physiologist, Dr. S.K. Bhattacharya, gynaecologist, and Prof. Sunit Mukherjee, nutritionist — neither advanced convincing arguments to substantiate their claim, nor placed scientific data which claim of a breakthrough.

Dr. Subhas Mukherjee and his two colleagues developed the embryo transfer technique and preserved it for 53 days under deep freez condition to ens the birth of the baby in the normal process.

The committee has mentioned in its report, according to the sources, that the scientist trio have declined to disclose the location of their laboratory where they have performed the highly suphisticated job. Nor have they been able to satisfy the committee on the technique adopted by them for collection of ova and its subsequent fertilisation with sperms.

The committee has also expressed dissatisfaction at the scientists' refusal to let the couple to be examined by gynaecologists on the plea that the couple to be examined by gynaecologists on the plea that the couple had taken legal cover against possible appearance before the committee for further medical check up or examination.

Dr. Subhas Mukherjee, the chief architect of the controversial birth, described the seemingly unfavourable report as of no value. He said the appointment of such a committee to inquire into scientific achievement was "unheard of" in the annals of medical world.

The government should have waited at least for one year or till "our scientific elaboration is published in an established scientific journal," he said.

Ashoka suffix to hotels

New Delhi (IBS) - All hotels run by the public sector India Tourism Development Corporation will in future be known as "Ashoka" hotels. In its promotional literature distributed abroad, ITDC has already started referring to its 21 hotels all over the country by that name.

The change of name is part of a marketing strategy designed to give the tourist - especially the foreign tourist - a simple name to identify ITDC hotels with. To the foreign visitor, the name ITDC does not even suggest that it is a hotel chain.

For years ITDC's biggest showpiece has been the attractive Ashoka Hotel in New Delhi. The name is recognised by any tourist who had passed through the Capital. So the ITDC hotel chain will now be known as the Ashoka group" of hotels, and Delhi's hotels will have the word Ashoka attached to their present names.

No jobs for shaven Sikhs in Punjab!

Gurdaspur (IBS) — Punjab's Minister for Development Atma Singh has said that his Government's policy was to recruit only those Sikhs in Government service who retained their hair and beard.

Speaking at a function at Batala, Atma Singh said that those Sikh employees of the Government who had cut their beard and hair were liable to removal from Government service.

The State Government, he said, had full faith in the Sikh Gurus and the Panth and would act the way the Sikh Gurus had acted.

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VISITORS GALORE

After several years of coolness in India-Canada relations, after the detonation of a nuclear device in India, Canada seems to be in a mood to bring some warmth into the relationship. This is evidenced by the impending visits of several Canadian politicians to India. Federal Cabinet Minister Anthony Abott will be in India shortly and he is to discuss improved bilateral trade arrangements. In particular these trade talks will be successful if Canada realizes that only if Canada can buy more in India, Canadians will be able to sell more to India.

The second politician visiting India this month is Opposition leader and potential prime minister Joe Clark. If Joe wins the election in the spring of 1979, as widely expected, the trip to India and the increased awareness on his part of India's potentials might enable him to develop a healthy attitude towards the country.

Thirdly, Ontario Minister, and a potential premier, Roy McMurtry is also visiting India. Roy McMurtry has been a good friend of the Indo-Canadian community in Ontario and one would hope that the present trip will help him to understand and appreciate, this community even more.

We do hope that these visits and the consequences they may have in policy areas related to India and Indians will be to the mutual advantage of both the countries, their peoples and in particular to the Indo-Canadian community in Canada. We wish these visiting politicians all the best during their trip and hope the Indian politicians, bureaucracy and the people will extend to them a most hearty welcome.

Warning on Kashmir

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (UNI): External Affairs Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee warned Pakistani leaders against raising the bogey of self-determination for Kashmir.

But, if they wanted to "play with fire" it was up to them to face the consequences, he added while replying to questions on a call attention motion in the Lok Sabha (Lower House).

The motion was on reported distortion of facts about Jammu and Kashmir appearing in the reports of a United Nations study panel. Relationship with Pakistan, in general, and the recent remarks of Pakistan President Ziaul Haq on Kashmir, in particular, figured in the points made by members.

Mr. Vajpayee agreed with Dr. Karan Singh (Cong) that Pakistani leaders raised the bogey of Kashmir whenever there was difficulty within the country. This had not paid in the past and the result would not be good if they tried again. If there was any matter, it was only about occupation of territory by Pakistan which should be vacated. He advised Pakistani leaders to think coolly about what would happen if they pursued the idea of self-determination.

A.B. Vajpayee

Regarding the document, Mr. Vajpayee said the reference was noticed for the first time in 1974. He was trying to find out whether there was any lapse in the military in not taking up the issue then. Jammu and Kashmir was included in a list of 30 territories" still awaiting settlement as regards the implementation of United Nations resolution concerning the right of self-determination of people under colonial or alien domination."

Letters

Immigration rules

One aspect of the new Immigration Act and Regulations, which became law last April, may be of particular interest to your readers.

I am referring to the requirement that permanent residents (landed immigrants) who are outside Canada for frequent or extended stays may need a Returning Resident Permit to re-enter the country.

The new law says that Canadian residents who are not citizens lose their permanent resident status when they leave Canada with the intention of abandoning their home here. This includes those who leave to do anything that suggests they are making a permanent home elsewhere - such as working abroad for a foreign employers. Also, permanent residents who are outside the country for more than 183 days in any 12-month period for any reason will be considered to have abandoned Canada.

When these travellers return to Canada, they will lose their status as permanent residents and be refused readmission unless they can satisfy immigration officers at the port of entry that they didn't intend to give up their Canadian residency.

The best way to do this is to have a Returning Resident Permit as proof that this was not their intention. Travellers can get a permit at their local Canada Immigration Centre before they leave, or at Canadian government offices abroad.

Though any permanent resident may apply for a permit, those who leave Canada for holidays or other short-term visits will not need one. Canadian citizens, of course, never need Returning Resident Permits.

Employment & Immigration Canada - Ottawa

New FP slogan

New Delhi (IBS) - "Delay the first, space the second and stop the third" is the new slogan for popularising family planning in the country, replacing the old one "We two, our two."

The slogan, chosen through competition which attracted 40,000 entries in different languages, will be popularised throughout the country in January which will be observed as the family planning month.

During a successful family planning fortnight in October 1978, about 100,000 people offered themselves for sterilisation.

Zia criticised

New Delhi, Dec. 26 (UNI) former Pakistan Air Force Chief Air Marshal Nur Khan has become an open critic of Gen. Zia-ul-Haq's Government.

In an interview to a Lahore weekly, the former Air Chief said that the Army could not give any better Government after removing an unpopular Government in July 1977.

He opposed Gen. Zia's proposal that the 1973 constitution be amended to give the army a "super role" in the country. For its future, he said, the country needs the dominance of a political government and political system.

Mr. Khan also criticized Gen. Zia's condition for holding elections so that they yield positive results. "Positive results cannot be forced", he said, adding as all such attempts have failed in the past, the Army should mind the country's security.

Gobar gas

Kernal, Dec 30 (UNI) - Some of the Asian and European countries are interested in setting up Gobar Gas Plants (Bio Gas Plant). Senior veterinarians from these countries Sunday visited Sanglora village near here to study the utilisation of animal wastes. They also discussed the operational processes with the Indian scientists.

Chinese members, in particular, showed a keen interest in the socio-economic programs launched under the operational research project in the village.

The visiting scientists told villagers that China had an ambitious program of developing buffaloes and, for this purpose, it had imported buffaloes from India and Pakistan.

Jailing Indira

The recent political developments in India provide a good example of how a democratic institution like the parliament can be used to foster the selfish interests of the party in power. Based on the Privileges Committee's majority-opinion that Mrs. Indira Gandhi obstructed four government officials from collecting evidence against the Maruti Car Company, the Lok Sabha has decided to expel her and send her to jail.

This is the first time that the Privileges Committee has failed to reach a unanimous decision. Though a majority of the committee members concluded that there was a breach of privilege, some of the members strongly disagreed with this conclusion. According to UNI and PTI, Dr. Seyid Mohammad (Cong), R. Mohanarangam (AIADMK) and B. Sanksranand (Cong-I) stated in a dissenting note that, "the committee's findings are unsustainable in law or on facts.... In order to come to the conclusion that these officers were harassed because of the fact that they collected information, one has to resort to extraordinary logic, twist facts and evidence considerably, indulge in imagination and conjectures without any basic evidence whatsoever and forget all canons of evidence". Hitendra Desai (Cong), another senior member of the committee, stated in a separate note that the facts presented did not prove that Mrs. Gandhi had committed any breach of privilege.

Punishment for breach of privilege is usually decided upon by the unanimous consent of the House. As the seasoned political reporter G.K. Reddy wrote recently, "the privilege belongs to the whole House and not just the majority of it. The powers to admonish, reprimand, suspend, expel and even imprison a member or an outsider for breach of privilege are traditionally exercised by the whole House". (The Hindu-International Edition; Dec. 2, 1978.) It had been reported that even some Janata leaders like Madhu Limaye (who moved the privilege motion in the first place) were pleading for moderation during the discussions in the Lok Sabha. However, when the final decision came, it was Morarji Desai's hard line position that prevailed.

Even if there was unanimous agreement on this issue, the jurisdiction of the present House in punishing a member for breach of privilege of the previous House was not clearly established. In a similar case against the former Ambassador to the United States, T.N. Kaul, the then speaker N. Sanjiva Reddy had ruled that 'the present Lok Sabha was not entitled to go into cases relating to breach of privileges that occurred during the tenure of the previous Lok Sabha''. This ruling was accepted by the government and the House at that time. However, while considering Mrs. Gandhi's case, the same government decided to overlook this precedent. These facts make one wonder whether the government's real motives were to uphold the privileges of the House or to harm Mrs. Gandhi politically.

The immediate outcome of this action is that the government has succeeded, at least for the time being, in preventing Mrs. Gandhi from performing her duties as a duly elected member of the Lok Sabha. It is ironic that every action the Janata government has taken so far to discredit her has only helped to strengthen her politically. The long-term outcome of the present manoeuvers will not be any different either.

George Varghese
Edmundston, New Brunswick.

Bootlegging in Punjab

Jullundur, Dec. 24 (UNI): The banks of Punjab's greatest rivers have become bootleggers' sanctuaries, according to excise officials here.

Vast tracts astride the beas, the Sutlej and the Ghaggar area are inaccessible by road and bootleggers carry on their activities without fear of any surprise raids.

Whenever raiding parties enter these areas, bootleggers spot them from a distance and manage to hide their simple apparatus and escape.

Bushes provide both cover and fuel while jaggery and molasses come from Uttar Pradesh in plenty.

The attempt of the administration to check the movements of these commodities have come to nought, and the operation of the law providing the control of supplies has been stayed by Punjab and Haryana High Court.

The illicit liquor is dispatched in assorted containers like tractor and car tubes to Delhi and various places in Punjab and Haryana.

Jaguar engines

New Delhi (IBS) - Agreements were signed here between the Central Government on the one hand and Rolls Royce of Britain and Turbomeca of France on the other relating to the manufacture of engines for the Jaguar aircraft by HAL at Bangalore.

The agreements, signed after fortnight-long negotiations provide for the production in India of the latest version of Adour engine of Rolls Royce-Turbomeca.

Racism in Britain
Skin co

This extraordinary interview is translated from DER SPIEGEL, the West German weekly.

SPIEGEL: Mr. Powell, you are the most vociferous and eloquent opponent of the demand that Britain's coloured population should be returned to their homelands. Do you believe that two million coloured Britons represent a threat to the 54 million whites?

POWELL: Everyone believes it, everyone. Even those politicians who do not speak about it believe it. They too fear that a fearful catastrophe may face us if we do not ultimately act.

But how are 3.6 per cent of the population supposed to plunge the other 96.4 per cent into a fearful catastrophe?

Do you know how many Normans crossed the Channel in 1066?

No.

10,000. That is the answer to your question.

But at that time there were only a few hundred thousand Anglo-Saxons in England.

No, no, there were at least a million. There can be no doubt that even such a small minority can have a revolutionary effect.

But the coloured minority have British passports, and all British citizens have equal rights. To repatriate some of them would contravene British laws.

The majority of the coloured people have not only British nationality but that of their country of origin as well, in other words of India, Sri Lanka or Jamaica. The child of an Indian born in England is an Indian by Indian law, and by British law British. If he was repatriated such a person would thus certainly not become stateless - this alone would contravene natural law.

But why should the coloured people not be allowed to choose their place of residence from between both countries whose nationalities they possess?

That depends on the laws of the country. The majority of Commonwealth states for instance do not tolerate dual nationality but compel people to decide on one nationality. We have hitherto been generous enough not to do that, but citizenship laws can be changed, they are a matter for the state concerned alone.

However, many British coloured people regard England as their home, especially if they were born here.

You must be joking.

No, we are certain of this.

Then you are welcome to your certainty. I am certain of the opposite. You cannot tell me that a Sikh who was born here regards England and not the Punjab as his home. What ideas you have!

A coloured child who grows up with white Britons in England learns English, nursery rhymes and goes to an English school, will naturally regard this country as his own.

Yes, yes, no doubt he will. Many of these people do indeed behave like conquerors. They consider that they own land here, whilst the British in India were not allowed to own land.

What are your com

Racism in Britain

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What are your concrete proposals with regard to the coloured people? Is parliament to pass a law withdrawing British citizenship from coloured people?

No, no, that would be very German. First of all, these people must recognise that they are aliens. Then one must look at population trends. An official report has now made clear that by the year 2000 the coloured population of England will have doubled. We should therefore then already have four million.

But the island will nevertheless not have been depopulated of whites then.

Of course not. But you must please consider that the coloureds are not distributed over the whole country but are concentrated in a few places. In Greater London between a fifth and a quarter of all births are already coloured. That means that in the course of time a third of the population of London will be coloured, about three and a half million people.

These are certainly impressive figures. But would you tell us please how it is that these coloured people interfere in your private or professional life. Do you meet any?

They meet me.

How frightful! Do you feel that to be a threat to you, as merely a nuisance?

Now listen carefully. When coloured people meet me, they only say, 'May I shake your hand, Mr. Powell? I am proud to meet you, Mr. Powell. You are doing the right thing, Mr. Powell. Just carry on, Mr. Powell'.

Now it is YOU who are joking.

No. I am asking you really to listen exactly to what I am saying.

And we are asking you not to shout so.

I am in my own house, so I can shout for as long as I like. Most of these coloured people agree with me.

If that were so, why do these people not go home on their own free will, instead of forever wanting to shake you by the hand here in London?

I can answer that. A year ago, coloured people in Southall were asked if they would go back. A young Sikh replied 'No, we shall not go back. We shall stay for another 20 or 30 years, until disorder breaks out. Only then will we go home.' I believe that was very revealing.

Many coloured people definitely do not want to go back to their homelands under any circumstances whatever, just as a large number of the German Jews who emigrated to England do not wish to go back to Germany.

I understand that very well. The Jews were robbed of all their rights.

The Asians in Kenya, Uganda and Malawi had a similar experience. They came to England because they were persecuted in Africa.

Many of them are going back all the same.

Certainly not to Uganda.

But to Kenya for example and to Tanzania.

But what if their home country does not take those returning?

Do you mean to say that an Indian who has lived and worked in this country would not be welcome back in India? Do you mean that? At most that would be the case with subversive elements who have their training here in England.

Mr. Powell, when one thinks how much coloured people in England are disadvantaged - in employment, in housing, in education, in almost every field of daily life - do you not feel that these people are enduring their fate most patiently?

They are not discriminated against, at least not by law, as far as I am aware. The law of course should protect and punish everyone equally. But in private life people just do distinguish between their own kind and aliens, Jews and Christians. All mankind does this.

In some countries they do it more, in others less.

At all events the coloured people have come here, and they have stayed here. Should I expect, if I came to Germany, to be treated like a German? Answer that!

You know full well that that is a false analogy.

Then let us take China.

This analogy is equally false. Was China ever part of the British Empire?

Oh, I see. If you mean the British rule in India should be restored, that is another matter. And something else: you spoke of patience. I am now thinking of the patience the people in Wolverhampton needed when they saw the face of their town being altered over the past 20 years until it was unrecognisable. I am thinking of the patience of the people of this country who no longer dare to step out of their front doors after dark because thugs will steal their wallets. Patience is not the right word for this, self-destruction would be better.

You speak as though there were no excesses by whites against blacks. Do you see a connection between race and violence?

When a separate and strange population establishes numerical ascendancy in an area, then the very nature of its separateness and self-identification promotes the exploitation of the violent and criminal impulses which are common to humanity; and there is nothing strange in this. It is not Powell who says this. You can observe it anywhere. And of course, colour is part of this, because colour is the uniform.

When one sees the street-battles in London's East End, with the fascist 'National Front' and Anti-Nazi-demonstrators attacking each other, and the police trying to keep the combatants apart, such scenes recall the last days of the Weimar Republic in Germany. Might racial conflict become a danger for democracy in England?

The greatest danger for democracy in England is the EEC and the abdication by the British parliament which it entails. The second greatest danger is nationalism, particularly of the Scots. Only after some years, but not so very many years, could the presence of coloured MPs perhaps become incompatible with the functioning of the British parliament.

Maurice Ludmer, editor of the anti-racist periodical 'Searchlight', says that racism in England is no coincidence but the natural consequence of 350 years of colonial history. Do you share that view?

It is very probable that our island situation has made us British more sensitive to aliens than other nations. That would be quite natural for an island people.

It is very much our nature to differentiate between what is British and what is not.

Ten years ago Edward Heath dismissed you as Conservative shadow defence-minister because he felt the tone of the demands you were already making then for the repatriation of coloured people to be racist. Heath's successor as leader of the party Margaret Thatcher, has herself now raised the race-question as an issue for the elections which will probably take place in the autumn. You have not changed your point of view. Do you foresee a comeback for yourself in the party?

If the Conservative Party believed it could gain votes, it would not only kill its own grandmother but eat her too.

You called British politicians 'pigmies'. Were you also referring to Mrs. Thatcher when you said that?

I was making a very general comment.

Were you including her?

I am excluding no one.

[New Statesman]

High drama in Delhi

New Delhi - The Indian capital witnessed high drama in December, marking the end of Act One in the power struggle in the Janata Party. Prime Minister Morarji Desai has for the present emerged on top.

Party mediators, with Desai's consent, offered to former Home Minister Charan Singh the post of Deputy Prime Minister in Desai's Cabinet. But there was a condition attached. Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram would also be upgraded as Deputy Prime Minister.

The two are arch political foes. Charan Singh rejected the parity proposal. He said he wanted simply to be restored as Home Minister, from which post he was forced by Desai to resign a few weeks ago.

Immediately after rejecting the offer, Charan Singh issued a Press statement announcing that he and his associates had "finally" decided that they would have no connection in any capacity with the Janata Government. However, they were not quitting the party, which they had helped to form in March 1977.

This was no act of self-abnegation. This meant that 72-year-old Charan Singh and his associates would now carry the war to the party forum, where the object would be to work for a new party leader in place of Morarji Desai.

As a first step, Charan Singh and his associates have declared their intention to organize a mass rally in Delhi to demonstrate their mass base. By implication, they seek to prove that their popular base is bigger than that of any other Janata leader.

NO ROCKING THE BOAT

Earlier half, a dozen Ministers tried brinkmanship with Morarji Desai to force his hands to make peace with Charan Singh and strengthen party unity. They failed.

Resignations from the Cabinet were threatened. But Industries Minister George Fernandes and some of the colleagues who were ready to follow his lead were persuaded not to rock the party boat.

However, it is clear enough that the boat has sprung a leak. It will not overturn from rocking. But there can be little doubt that it will sink unless the leak is attended to.

Nobody has yet emerged as a clear successor to Morarji Desai. Indeed, things do not yet seem to have gone to the stage of looking for an acceptable candidate.

There seems no option for the present except to coast along with Desai. It was in Desai's favour that after the recent Samastipur and Fatehpur election victories, situation looks less desperate for the Janata. It is possible to argue that, in the north, the people are not disposed to reject the Janata just yet. But the trend unmistakably is moving away form the Janata, and it cannot be arrested without visible signs of a more purposeful management of the nation's affairs.

DESAI'S RESPONSIBILITY

Desai cannot evade his responsibility. He has revelled in enlarging his already considerable reputation as a faddist and an abscurantist and his obsessive interest in prohibition has helped to throw doubt in the public mind of the capacity of a party with a sense of priorities so warped to grapple with the more urgent real problems before the country.

His style of leadership has been diffuse. He gives no sense of a directing mind behind the work of the government and he has left his ministers to their own devices to the extent that several of them have made policy statements without the stamp of Cabinet approval.

There is also the well-advertised indulgence of the Prime Minister towards those of his ministers who have shown themselves to be unequal to the discharge of the responsibilities entrusted to them. Loyalty at some cost to one's private interest can be a laudable trait, but it is a negation of public duty when the public cause is allowed to suffer.

This is not a private quarrel between Desai and some unhappy ministers. It is the expression of a widespread feeling among Janata men that the party cannot survive without drastic changes in the working of the government.

To say that the crisis has blown over is to misunderstand its nature.

The crisis will return in a more intensive form unless there is swift remedial action.

Ram may claim Dy. rank

New Delhi, Dec. 27 (UNI) - Defence Minister Jagjivan Ram is believed to have turned down suggestions that he should himself take initiative and advise the Prime Minister to take back former Home Minister Charan Singh as Deputy Prime Minister.

While this is the formal stand of the Defence Minister, sources close to him made it clear that any elevation of Charan Singh to the status of Deputy Prime Minister with a corresponding gesture to Mr. Jagjivan would not meet with his approval. Jagjivan Ram's supporters have made it known to Mr. Desai that if Mr. Charan Singh was made Depty Prime Minister, Mr. Jagjivan Ram too should be similarly elevated.

The Languages in India 1

By A.F. Ashtamadi

India is a land of myriad tongues. Suniti Kumar Chatterji, a leading authority on the languages of India, lists 825 languages and dialects. Grierson, another respected authority in linguistics, records 179 languages and 544 dialects in his massive study 'Linguistic Survey of India'. This is of course an exhaustive list based on fine distinctions and includes quite insignificant groups of languages spoken by a few thousand people. Of these, 14 languages are spoken by more than 10 million people, 11 are spoken by more than a million people, and 25 by more than 100,000. We shall be concentrating on languages spoken by at least a million people each.

LINGUISTIC & RACIAL ORIGINS

These languages are, in essence, a reflection of the racial diversity that characterizes the Indian subcontinent.

As yet it has not been established that any kind of man originated on the soil of India. It is generally assumed that all human inhabitants in India, came, in the first instance, from outside. Research to date tends to confirm that man's beginnings can be traced to somewhere in East Africa. According to B. Guha, Director of the Anthropological Survey of India, the population of India is derived from five major races which entered India from primeval times.

The first wave of people to enter India some 400,000 years ago were the negroids from Africa. A pure Negroid race is non-existent in India today. They treated India as a half-way house, staying long enough to develop some of their salient characteristics and then left for other lands further to the east, in Malaya and in distant New Guinea. A trace of their language is found in present day Andamanese.

Sometime before 3000 B.C. came the next group of peoples, the proto australoids or austrics from Western Asia. To a large extent they represent the Adivasis, the Scheduled Castes and Tribes of India. They probably mingled with the earlier Negroids and developed through a process of mutual assimilation, the Austro-Asiatic group of languages. Bands of Austrics went on to Burma and Indo-China, into Malaya, and into the islands of Indonesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. According to the Gazetteer of India "the Austrics form the bedrock of the Indian peoples". They must have laid the foundation of an early Indian civilization. They certainly built the basic agricultural framework of Indian civilization.

The Austric languages as it is known today have a rich oral literature of songs, lyric poetry, folk tales, and amusing riddles. For instance Santali lyrics give a pretty idyllic glimpse of tribal life; some of the Munda love-poems having a rare freshness about them. These languages were reduced to writing only in the 19th century by Christian missionaries from Europe, working among the Santals, the Mundas, the Oraons and others for proselytization.

Third in order of arrival into India were the Sino-Tibetan speaking MONGOLOIDS from the east through Assam and the Himalayas. They did not spread all over India, but were confined to the Himalayan region and the plains at the foot of the Himalayas, and particularly to North Bihar, North and East Bengal, and Assam. The Sino-Tibetan family of languages is spoken by about 0.75 percent of the population. Except for Manipuri, none of them have a written literature. Ladakhi and Ahomi are important as spoken languages.

The Negroid, the Austro-Asiatic and Sino-Tibetan languages together constitute less than 2 percent of the languages spoken in India today. However, these languages link India with Burma, Indo-China, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Pacific.

Between 4000 and 3000 B.C. arrived a mediterranean race called the DRAVIDIANS or PRO TOMEDITERRANEANS. They appear to be people of the same stock as the peoples of Asia Minor and Crete and the pre-Hellenic Aegeans of Greece. They are reputed to have built the city civilization of the Indus valley, whose remains have been found in Mohenjo Daro and Harappa. The Dravidians spread across the length and breadth of India, supplanting the Austrics and the Negroids alike. The Dravidian languages form a solid bloc in South India, embracing the four great literary languages, Tamil, Kannada, Telugu and Malayalam, and a number of less important speeches like Tulu, Kodagu and Kota. Besides these languages in Southern India, other minor Dravidian tongues in Central and Eastern India are Kui, Kurukh, and Malto. In addition, Brahui spoken in Baluchistan is also a Dravidian language.

From central Europe around 2000-1500 B.C. descended a new wave of peoples known as the INDOARYANS. These Aryans were actually representatives of three subgroups: the Dinaric, the Alpine, and the Nordic. The Dinaric group appeared in its purest form in the Coorg, but was well marked in Bengal, Orissa, Kathiawar, Kannada and Tamil countries. The Alpine group spread in Gujarat and the West coast of Maharashtra while the Nordics moved from Western and Northern Punjab into the Ganges valley and beyond. When the pastoral Aryans arrived in India, they encountered the highly civilized Indus Valley people who had big towns, with fortifications and access to the amenities of a refined city civilization. They displaced the Dravidians from Northern India, driving them to the South. It is not known with any degree of certainly how the Indus civilization collapsed. Some attribute this eclipse to natural calamities like floods. Others seem to believe that it was simply a case of Aryan horsemanship and military might.

The languages of Northern India, derived from the speeches of these Indo-Aryans, are part of the larger family of Indo-European languages. These languages form the greatest mental and spiritual link between India and the lands of the West. Persian, Greek, Russian, Armenian and the Slav languages; the Baltic speeches Lithuanian and Latvian; Latin and its daughters Italian, Spanish, Portuguese and French; the Germanic languages like English, Swedish, Dutch and German; and the Celtic tongues Gaelic, Welsh and Breton; all these are related to Sanskrit of Ancient India and to its descendants Hindi, Bengali, Marathi and other Indo-Aryan languages of modern India.

RACIAL & LINGUISTIC SYNTHESIS

Indic civilization is thus a composite of the four main language-culture groups that survive today: Austric, Sino-Tibetan, Dravidian and Indo-Aryan. Basically the foundation is pre-Aryan, with important Aryan modifications within as well as Aryan superstructures at the top. In the four original language groups there were fundamental differences in formation and vocabulary, in sounds and in syntax. But they have lived and developed side by side for over 5000 years and have therefore influenced each other profoundly. It would be simplistic to assume that the great Aryan and Dravidian languages, together spoken by 98 percent of the population developed in isolation or independent of each other. Linguistic as well as racial miscegnation was rampant. This has led to either a general evolution or mutual imposition, inspite of original differences, of some common features which may be called specifically 'Indian'. The picture of structurally separate independent language families, though correct from the point of view of comparative and historical linguistics, unfortunately disguises an historical process that has worked to decrease the differences between Indian languages. This convergence of languages of different families has created a situation in which the modern Indo-Aryan languages are more similar to Dravidian languages than they are to other Indo-European languages, Sanskrit being the key to this evolution. Vedic Sanskrit remains the only pure Indo-Aryan language, while Old Tamil is the purest Dravidian language extant in India. One Russian scholar, A. Andronov, has recently contended that this convergence between Indo-Aryan and Dravidian is the initial step in the formation of a new language family which will neither be Indo-Aryan nor Dravidian. That's for the distant future.

LANGUAGE & THE CONSTITUTION

In the federal set-up of India, with various States using their regional languages, an inter-State or common language is a matter of national necessity. The constitution of India has therefore ordained Hindi in the Devanagari script as the common language for all of India. English which has so far functioned as the lingua franca of India, was to be retained as an official language until 1965 when it was to be completely replaced by Hindi as the sole official language. Subsequent developments have turned the current in favour of continuing English as an additional official language, no definite date being fixed for its elimination and replacement by Hindi.

Today, the national languages listed in the Constitution remain the official languages in the respective States, while Hindi and English continue to be used for inter-State correspondence and for all-India use. In the Official Languages Amendment Bill approved by the Indian Parliament, provision is made for either Hindi or English as compulsory for all recruitment to the Central Services. In addition, correspondence in English is obligatory only between the Union and a non-Hindi speaking State. Hindi speaking States corresponding with a non-Hindi State could send their communications in Hindi supplying English translations along with them; translations in English or Hindi would be acceptable in the case of inter-State communication.

(To be continued).....

HISTORY OF SINDHI HINDUS

By S.Kubchandani

INTRODUCTION

Sindhi Hindus - Hindus whose ancestors lived in the Province of Sindh now in Pakistan - are a vibrant and proud people. Their natural gift of adaptability has helped them add to their heritage and excel through changing times and migrations. Now numbering over three million, about 90 per cent reside in India, Bombay being the biggest centre. Rest are scattered all over the world, specially in large commercial centres; Hong Kong having the biggest complement.

By and large a community of business people, Sindhis have also excelled as professionals, administrators, educators and spiritual seekers. Underlying all their achievements is a proud awareness of their distinctive culture inherited through generations.

The current four part series of articles briefly describes the history of Sindhi Hindus. The historical events reflect the ruling powers and the prevalent political, social and religious conditions. Accordingly, this history is related under four distinct periods - Hindu (prior to 711 A.D.), Muslim (711 to 1843), British 1843 to 1947) and Modern (since 1947).

I HINDU PERIOD (Up to 711 A.D.)

The word "Sindh" originates from Sindhu Nandi or Indus River. The Indus River Valley (Sindhu Mathar) which comprises of present day Indo-Pakistan geographical regions of Kashmir, Punjab, Qaandhar, Sindh also included Kutch, Kathiawar and Khambhat regions of Gujarat until the river changed its course. All the residents of this valley were known as Sindhus. Ancient Persians having no 's' changed this to "Hindus". The Greeks, finding hard to pronounce "h" changed this to "Indus"; which gave the western name "India" or "Indies" to the entire subcontinent.

A highly developed civilization flourished in Sindhu Mathar during 3000 to 6000 B.C. Rich agriculture supported cities especially in what is now northern Sindh and southern Punjab. These cities as revealed by excavations at Mohan-Jo-Daro and Harrapa had planned citadels, street blocks, drainage and tiles. Vedas, ancient Hindu scriptures were written during this period. Sanskrit, a language of great beauty and brevity developed at several university centres. In the epic battle of Mahabaharta which took place about 3000 B.C. Jayadartha ruler of Sindh was killed fighting on the side of his brother-in-law Duryodhan.

This ancient civilization was almost completely wiped out, by internal decadence, earthquakes and Aryan invasions, by about 1500 B.C.

The region flourished again and around 500 B.C. the Persian King Cyrus and his successor Darius extended their empire up to Indus River. Alexander (Sikander) of Greece - considered the greatest military genius in history - was the first conqueror to cross Indus in circa 500 B.C. He magnanimously restored the Kings he defeated - Porus of Taxila in Punjab being the most famous - received innumerable gifts, left some descendents through marriage to a Sindhi girl from Sewhan (as did many of his soldiers) and reached the mouth of Indus. He followed up his three year campaign in Sindh by invasion of Persia where he died when only 33.

The invaders from the Northwest (Persians, Greeks and others) as well as the powerful rulers from Central India (now Bihar and U.P.) such as Magdhas and Mauryas had little impact on the civilization of Sindhu Mathar. Ashoka Maurya in 270 B.C. for the first time established an empire which included Sindhu Valley as well as most of Northern India. He spread Budhism throughout Southern Asia, China and Japan. His budhist edicts and stupas can be found all over the country, including the famous Ellora, Ajanta, Elephanta and Sanchi.

Religious movements like Budhism and subsequently Jainism did not have significant impact on the population of Sindh. Whatever little influence they had was later effaced by resurgent Hindu renaissance which reached its peak circa 300 A.D. during the reign of Samudra Gupta whose empire included almost the entire Indian subcontinent. India was at that time undoubtedly the richest country in the world. The period 300 to 500 A.D. is considered the golden age of Hindu India. Hinduism spread to Burma, Indo-China, Malaya and Indonesia (Java). Magnificent temples were built all over the country at Khajuraho, Somnath, Tanjore as well as at Khmer in Cambodia and Barabudur in Java. Art, dance, drama, culture and science flourished during this period.

Harsha, the last of Gupta emperors was a pious recluse. Every five years, he gave up his entire wealth. After his death without an heir in 646 A.D., the Gupta empire broke up into smaller principalities. These were ruled by feuding warrior kings who came to be called Rajputs and Thakurs.

One such Thakur from Aliore ruled in what is now known as Northern Sindh. This city located near present Rohiri was completely buried by an earthquake in 960 A.D. Bukhar, a great commercial centre nearby also declined thereafter.

Southern portion of Sindh around the mouth of Indus River was then sparsely populated due to recurrent flooding caused by changes in river course. So when Muhammad-Bin-Qasim an emissary of Khalifa of Baghad landed there near present day Karachi, in 712 A.D. he encountered virtually no resistance. The local ruler Raja Dahir put up an inept fight and was quickly defeated by Muhammad's forces. Raja's daughters later avenged their father's defeat by killing Muhammad.

Thus began the first Muslim settlement on Indian soil. However, the overland Muslim conquest of Indian sub-continents did not take place till 400 years later.

To be continued...

NO RADIO STATION FOR GOLDEN TEMPLE

New Delhi, Dec. 24 (UNI) - The Government has not found it feasible to accept the offer made by the Sikh community in The United Kingdom to present a high-power broadcasting station to the Golden Temple at Amritsar, Minister for Information and Broadcasting L. K. Advani told the Rajya Sabha (Upper House).

Naval build up by China

New Delhi, Dec. 30 (UNI) China has started building destroyers of 3,500 tonne displacement, big amphibious ships, missile-launching motor boats, and a variety of other warships.

Peking has entered into secret deals with three west European countries seeking technology to build in China some latest naval craft.

Several Chinese naval experts are presently touring European capitals shopping for sophisticated naval equipment, including 200 sea harrier vertical take-off and landing aircraft from Britain.

Military experts have expressed concern over the way China is speeding up modernization of its navy. They feel that the "rapidly rising Chinese naval strength and its growing military presence in the Indian and Pacific Ocean would have serious repercussions in the next decade."

According to latest reports China is looking for technology to build nuclear-power submarines. Though the Chinese navy occupies the third place in world in the total number of ships (1,200 to 1,500 ships), the number of its naval personnel now is more than 300,000, including 30,000 naval air force and 38,000 marines.

For its big expansion plans, the Chinese government is enlisting the support of France, West Germany, some Western countries and Japan.

During the recent visit of the French anti-submarine destroyer "duguay trouin" to Shanghai, its crew was for the first time allowed to inspect the Chinese shipyards where Chinese submarines are being built.

Ex-mayor convicted

Madras (IBS) — Two former mayors Mmvr Muthu and Arumugham, 19 ex-councillors and 50 employees of the Madras Corporation were sentenced by a special judge to terms of imprisonment ranging between one to four years in the seamen's bonal muster rolls case.

One hundred and seven persons were charge-sheeted in Nov. 1974 in what is considered the biggest case of its kind in Tamil Nadu involving misappropriations amounting to Rs. 1,20 million between April 1969 and November 1973.

One of the principal accused former mayor V. Muniswamy died before the case was taken up by the special judge P.R. Pakkirsankar in March 1976. During the trial two councillors also died.

According to the indictment the accused conspired and fabricated muster rolls of the corporation electricity department and defrauded the civic body by showing payments to non-existent temporary workers. False vouchers were made and encashed. Later, thousands of used muster rolls and vouchers was destroyed to mask evidence of the 107 accused 32 of whom were acquitted.

Gandhiji's biography in Spanish

New Delhi (IBS) - Cuba will publish a biography of Mahatma Gandhi in Spanish, Cuba's Minister for External Relations Isidoro Peoli announced here.

The visiting Minister made this announcement on the occasion of the signing of Indo-Cuban agreement for cultural and educational exchanges and added that this was one of the first steps his country was taking towards promoting greater knowledge of India's cultural heritage and its present challenges.

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The Prime Minister Mr. Morarji Desai, with Grasiya Tribal dancers of Rajasthan who gave a performance for the 10th International Congress of Anthropologists held in New Delhi in December 1978.

Was it suicide?
14 year old found dead

By John Picton

On Dec. 12 Debbie Das set the alarm clock for 7:10 a.m. - the time she always got up for school.

She had finished her homework and gone to bed early.

When the alarm went off she had been dead for four hours, killed in a plunge from the 24th-floor balcony of her apartment on Chalkfarm Drive, near Jane Street and Sheppard Avenue.

The jarring ring of the bell was the last witness to her existence.

"I know I will never get her back, but I want an answer," her mother said in an interview.

"If you want to commit suicide, you don't set the alarm."

That is one of a series of puzzling questions about the death of 14-year-old Debbie, a quiet girl with long black hair who everyone says was gentle and friendly.

Psychiatrists say people often do normal things when they are contemplating suicide. "When they make up their minds, they don't then go back and undo them," one psychiatrist said.

"When I went to work that night, I left a very happy girl," says Debbie's mother, Pratima Das (pronounced Dash). "I want to know the reason for her death."

Some police officers have described Debbie's fall as suicide. The officer in charge of the investigation noncommittally calls it sudden death.

One investigator said he is trying to decipher a notebook in which Debbie appeared to contemplate taking her own life.

Her mother believes it was murder.

PARENTS SEPARATED

Mrs. Das, who is separated from her husband, works midnight to 7 a.m. as a keypunch operator at a bank. She was at work the night Debbie died, decorating the office Christmas tree and singing carols during her coffee break when the fateful call came.

Mrs. Das remembers her 8-year-old daughter's voice, recorded for eternity in her mind, saying: "Debbie jumped and took some pills."

"I had a bottle of diet pills at home. It held about 60 of them."

Mrs. Das thinks she had taken about seven of the pills and there were some - "maybe 10" - found in the sink.

The remainder were missing.

Did Debbie take them?

The police say they will know in about two weeks when a forensic science laboratory completes a series of tests.

Over and over, Mrs. Das has been reliving that last night with her daughter.

Debbie went to bed at 9 p.m., two hours earlier than usual. But she did that when she was tired.

The youngest girl stayed up, cuddling her mother as they watched television.

At 11 Mrs. Das tucked the little girl into bed with Debbie, who woke and said: "Goodnight, Mummy."

"She was in a jolly mood."

The mother left the apartment at 11:30 to catch her usual ride to work. Although she finished at 7, she would not be home until 8:30 because she had to take the bus from the Don Mills area.

At about 3 a.m. Debbie fell 24 floors.

Mrs. Das' smallest daughter - she will not give her name - has told her mother she was awakened by a scream, that the door to the balcony was open and that the front door was closed.

The police say none of her neighbors heard a scream - "at least, they're not admitting to it if they did."

Mrs. Das also says a fingerprint expert was not sent to her apartment until about 4 p.m. on the day of Debbie's death, Dec. 13.

PILLS IMPLICATED

She says he arrived about 13 hours after the incident, commented that it was too late to take prints because there had been too many visitors, and left.

The police say they took fingerprints.

Mrs. Das also says that no footprints were taken around the death scene until late that afternoon.

A police official conceded that "there had been a lot of police and ambulance men around."

"The police said they think she took the pills, and they are sure there was no one inside the apartment," Mrs. Das says, but "I don't think she killed herself."

Born in Calcutta, Debbie had been a sickly child until her family emigrated to Canada eight years ago.

"Since then, she's been healthy," Mrs. Das says.

The police have a theory that Debbie had been unhappy about her parents' separation.

Mrs. Das says her daughter had come to terms with that. "I used to talk to her as a friend as much as a mother.

"I sat her down one day and said: 'Let's always be honest with each other no matter what happens,' and she said, 'Okay, Mummy.'"

Debbie had been unhappy last year when she had trouble with her grades at school, but this year she appeared content - a view that is confirmed by the staff at Beverley Heights Junior High School.

Daily, she would walk by one of those pieces of cute dogma that educational authorities use in building character. This one listed the Four Things a Woman Should Know: How to look like a girl, how to act like a lady, how to think like a man, and how to work like a dog.

SHE SEEMED HAPPY

Debbie often must have wondered how she would shape up against these expectations.

Fred Siberry, the school principal, remembers her as a quiet girl who was receiving special help, "and she was doing quite well."

Vice-principal Charles Fletcher remembers her as having the self-assurance to borrow the odd dime from him for a phone call. "I'd always get it back."

Once, she told her mother she wanted to be a doctor and Mrs. Das said: "But you are so afraid of needles."

"She said: 'Well, maybe I'll become a keypunch operator like you, Mummy'."

"She seemed to be happy and made friends," says Enid Winhall, the school's guidance counsellor.

"There was no indication from them, or members of the staff, that there was any problem whatsoever."

Mrs. Das says: "She knew all my financial details and I was telling her everything would be okay in the New Year."

In the middle of her sparsely furnished apartment, Mrs. Das has set a picture of Debbie, smiling through a garland of mums, on a small coffee table.

In a Hindu custom, the picture is surrounded by a candle and various food-stuffs, offerings to fortify the spirit.

Behind it stands a small Christmas tree.

"So many years of love have gone," says Mrs. Das.

"I know she didn't kill herself."

[The Globe & Mail]

'ILMS

RAMYOGI

...ected by Ram Maheshwary
...ected by Anil Suri

...ram Maheshwary is a film ...er with an intellectual bent of ...d. His **Kaajal** was a multi-star ...le which set the trend for ...y multi-starrers. **Nasl Kamal** ... about reincarnation, though ...as great a hit as **Kaajal**. ...ah Naaz, Jahan Bhai set a ...rd in Punjabi films-the all-...grosser at the boxoffice. It ... perhaps the first film on the ...e religion and the Sikhs' ...ples and holy shrines. The ...a took the film so piously that ...y of them would enter the ...ma-hall barefoot, leaving be-...d their footwear at the gate. In **...amyogi** Ram Maheshwary ...s up the message of the ...s: Do your duty, without ...hering about the reward.

...e youngman in **Karamyogi** is ...er to enjoy the fruits of his ...our immediately instead of ...ting for it till eternity. So he ...hes with his god-fearing, ...gious wife, quits home along ...h his young son, and puts his ...f into practice. With single-...ded determination and luck in ...favour, he gets what he wants ... the period of enjoying the ...t of his "labour" is cut short ...y fate. The son takes up where ...he father left off. He also learns ...is lesson. The day of his ...eckoning is not far. His devilish ...eeds lead him to devilish end.

The theme of **Karamyogi**, the ...econd remake of **Geeta** [1940], is ...ot new to Hindi cinema. **Geeta** ...starred by Chandramohan, the ...actor with the magnetic eyes, in ...the double role-father and son-Durga Khote and Trilok Kapoor. ...After a decade and a half it was ...remade as **Bhai Bhai** with Ashok ...Kumar in the double role and ...Kishore Kumar among others in the cast. **Karamyogi**'s plot has been up-...dated. In **Geeta** the atheist-hero ...was a small-time pick-pocket, in **Karamyogi** he is a big-time ...smuggler. **Karamyogi** ends on a ...double tragedy, in **Bhai Bhai** only ...the son died, the religious-min-...ded mother remained alive.

The atheist-hero in **Karamyogi** is ...too loud and rhetorical, in **Geeta** ...he was not arrogant and loud-...mouthed. Chandramohan's vis-...age spoke volumes. Raj Kumar in **Karamyogi** depends on melo-...dramatic overtones to impress ...one. Mala Sinha's playing as ...orthodox wife and mother is far ...better than Durga Khote's and ...Nirupa's performances. Ram ...Maheshwary has sweetened the ...message pill with a lot of ...boxoffice **masala**, the highlight ...of which is a burning double-dec-...ker chase and smash-ups through ...the busy streets of Bombay.

The film is more about **Karam** ...than about **yogi** [**yogin**]. ...Fights, cabaret, smuggling activ-...ities, qawwali, thrills and the ...hero's double role are the **karam** ...part. The **yogi** part is **Mala Sinha** ...always seen praying before the ...deity when not listening to the ...harangue of her husband and son. ...It is only in Indian cinema that a ...father biologically transfers the ...marks of his body to his son. In ...real life there might be a few ...cases, but in the Indian films it is ...quite often. Special effects are ...good, but one notices in some ...frames the difference in lighting ...of the two halves of the same ...frame. The spiritual element in ...the drama gets less attention than ...the materialistic one. Does it ...mean that the film-makers have ...attempted to glorify crime? But ...then it is said that the sor' disas ...of life should be brought out more ...prominently to attract the aud-...ience.

CHOR KE GHAR CHOR

Directed By Vijay Sadanah

Produced By Chander Sadanah

...The practice with the commercial film-maker is to repeat the formula of an earlier successful film. This practice is in vogue all over the world. For instance, we had Godfather, Godfather II and now Godfather III; Jaws followed by Jaws II. Many silent films were remade when sound invaded the screen, later in colour and in wide screen. Anna Karenina is said to have had thirteen versions; War and Peace had two: the American and the Russian. In Hindi cinema, we have seen six versions of Heer Ranjha. Some films were remade after a lapse of a decade or two. Like B R Chopra's Afsana into Dastaan.

Chor Ke Ghar Chor is a follow-up of Victoria No. 203, which was a crime thriller with a difference. For the first time a Hindi movie featured two stalwarts of Indian screen-Pran and Ashok Kumar. Their deeds and misdeeds put into shade the tried "lead" pair-Saira Bano and Navin Nischol. It was a flashpoint between the comedy of intrigue and the tragedy of crime. This comic pair-pan has also shade many other comedy pairs of the Indian screen. It was to be expected that they would be repeated. But it took six years to happen in Chor Ke Ghar Chor. If Chori Mera Kaam, the first follow-up of Victoria No. 203, was not as great a success as its original, Pran was not to be blamed-he did not feature in a major role in the film. Ashok Kumar singlehandedly could not carry the film to its desired goal on his old shoulders. Moreover, Ashok Kumar's character was more serious than comic. Deven Verma's style of tongue-in-the-cheek comedy had some novelty about it but it was not enough. Pran's small appear-

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Raj Kumar is known for delivering dialogue forcefully, sometimes breathless harangues. His volume of speech is the same whether in laughing triumph or ultimate despair. He finds it hard to make any quick change. However, he does rise to the occasion with good effect. He is mistaken if he believes that people like him playing in the set manner. It is time he tried with understatement and not ranting and shouting at a risky decibel.

Ajit is strongly characterised as the boss of smugglers - stern, cruel and unprincipled.

Mala Sinha, playing the wife and later mother, is the best part of the film. She interprets the role with the right feeling, expressions and reactions and proper attention to its structure. She still displays exquisite grace and understanding. Voluptuous beauty of Rekha is exploited to the hilt in the cabaret dance number. Only in the throw of her body while dancing she is not as good an expert as Helen and Padma Khanna.

The dialogue is forceful and rhetorical investing almost every scene with drama. It has unconvincing splendour of heavy emotions and passion. K K Mahajan's cinematographic work is A-1, and it vividly brings out the dramatic or melodramatic moments in the film. Rather the entire film is a drama, the opening itself is nothing less than a climax.

Karamyogi focuses on conflict between karam and spirituality with unsettling vigour. It is more a filmed theatre than a motion picture of today's subtlety.

DARSHAK in Democratic World

MGR not to quit

Singapore (IBS) - Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.G. Ramachandran has said that he would continue to act in films. "I never left acting, therefore, the question of my returning to films does not arise," he told journalists here on the last leg of his overseas tour.

"But while I am Chief Minister, I will continue to act without drawing salary from the Government," he said.

Cricketers to receive Rs.10,600

Bangalore (IBS) - Every Indian cricketer will be paid Rs 10,600 for every Test he plays against the West Indies who are now touring India. This amount includes Rs 4,000 towards each player's benevolent fund.

The manager of the Indian team will get Rs 6,000 for each test and the Cricket Control Board has wisely chosen former Test stars for five tests as managers while the only non-star Dr. K. Thimmapaiah will be the Manager for the fourth Test at Madras.

...audio at the end did not save the film.

In Chor Ke Ghar Chor, Pran and Ashok Kumar are at it again. If in Victoria No. 203, the film's dynamics of comedy depended entirely on the, in Chor Ke Ghar Chor Deven Verma with his brand of limecene-laced parlayance of guff and laugh adds to the old pair's antics-which are not as laughable as they were in Victoria... Their characters are now but antics reminds the same re-petition of similar song-and-dance situations, playing the side-kick to each other, etc. However, their effect this time is limited to small range. In Victoria... their tom-foolery seemed to be spontaneous, it looks contrived and affected in Chor Ke Ghar Chor. That is why it lacks the entertainment quotient. It does not have the power to transcent artificiality and illogicality of the plot. Yes, the plot is as illogical as was that of the earlier two: search for priceless jewels, treasure or ancient idol. But that's only an excuse to spin a different kind of fantasia.

I hope I don't sound patronizing when I describe Zeenat Aman's performance as robust O-level. In Chori Mera Kaam she attracted us by baring her leggy beauty like Saira Bano in Victoria No. 203. In Chor Ke Ghar Chor, she is ecstatically roguish and charmingly ticklish. In Satyam Shivam Sundaram we saw one side of her artistic personality: a serious, love-lorn, scar-faced beauty. In Chor Ke Ghar Chor, we watch her as a carefree comedienne full of pep and prattle. She has come a long way from her first film Hulchul wherein she was hardly noticed as a model.

Deven Verma in a double role is entertaining and jocular-his Pravasahkal is much more hilarious than his anglicised Jackson, follower of JFames Bond 007. His real sister-in-law, Preeti Ganguly, plays his Gujarati wife and aids in the mirth and merry-making of the three comedians. Ashok Kumar's psychic character could have been more comic had more thought been given to it. Pran's get-up is funnier than his tom-foolery. The loser is the hero: Randhir Kapoor. He is only an addendum.

DARSHAK in Democratic World

Small car by 1980

Bangalore, Dec. 27 (UNI) - The first batch of small cars, a joint sector farukabad project, in Uttar Pradesh, will be on the road by May, 1980.

The four-door four-seater car will cost Rs. 20,000 inclusive of all taxes.

This totally indigenous car with locally designed engine and pressed steel sheets and certain electronic gadgets will have a maximum cruising speed of 110 km an hour, giving 18 km to a litre.

Announcing these features at a press conference Daya Ram Shakya, MP, and P T Raghavan, the two directors of the promoting undertaking claimed that the prototype had already been cleared by the Central Government and that they would turn out 50 cars in the next six months purely for trial.

Harappan site

Aurangabad (IBS) — A 5,000-year-old Harappan site has been discovered in Shule district of Maharashtra, according to the Archaeological survey of India.

It said that the surface finds included classical painted-pottery conch bangles, terracotta bull and rhino head masks similar in technique to that of Mohan-jo-dero, near Larkana in Pakistan, and a unique conch bangle with engravings of four Harrapan alphabets.

The new minimum wage rates

On January 1, 1979 new Minimum Wage rates will go into effect. Here are the new rates:

	Effective **January 1, 1979
General hourly rate	$ 3.00
Learner, hourly rate	2.90
Construction and Guards at construction sites, hourly rate	3.25
*Hourly rate for persons employed to serve liquor in licensed premises	2.50
*Student, hourly rate	2.15
Ambulance Drivers and Helpers, Weekly Rate	144.00
Hunting or Fishing Guides less than 5 consecutive hours	15.00
5 or more hours whether or not consecutive	30.00
*Room and Board The following maximum rates apply when room and board are included in calculating the minimum wage:	
Room, weekly	11.00
Meals, each	1.15
weekly	24.00
Room and Meals, weekly	35.00

*no change from previous rate
**the entire work week in which January 1 falls

You can get more information about the new Minimum Wage rates and the Employment Standards Act by writing or phoning:

Employment Standards Branch
Ontario Ministry of Labour
400 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1T7
(416) 965-5251

Ontario Ministry of Labour — Employment Standards Branch

Hon. Robert G. Elgie, M.D., Minister

Successful ... in T...

Between 300-400 persons packe... the Commonwealth Hall of Hol... day Inn (Don Valley-Eglinton) o... Sunday, November 19. The... were there to attend the "Ope... House" organized jointly by th... Indian Immigrant Aid Service... and "New Delhi 1978" Planni... Committee.

The purposes of this event wer... to report to the community on th... activities and achievements of th... IIAS; the success of the Ne... Delhi Pavilion in the 1978 Meta... Caravan, the contribution ... volunteers, and the future goa... and objectives of the organiz... tion. The "Open House" w... also an occasion to recognize th... contribution of volunteers to th... success of the IIAs and "Ne... Delhi 1978" Pavilion.

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Ray's H...

SHATRANJ KE KHILADI

By: Manjula Das (Purabi)

Satyajit Ray's costume His... venture Shatranj Ke Khil... [chess-players] based on a sto... by Premchand, makes metaphor... cal references to the game ... chess to denote skin struggle ... manoeuvres and diplomacy ... played in India/British politi... family relationships and soci... friendships during the 1800s. The film partly in Hindi a... partly in English, is quite diff... cult from Ray's other productions ... most of which have been base... only social themes concentratin... on characterisation, and wherei... Ray's subtle genius as a direct... has found optimum expression.

In Shatranj Ke Khiladi th... audience is treated to internalize... flashes of Ray's directorial ge... ius, fine photography, as well ... the excellent histrionic talen... displayed by Sanjeev Kumar a... Sayeed Jaffrey as chessplayi... nawabs, Richard Attenborough ... General Outram, Amjad Khan ... the ruler of Oudh and Farida Jal... as an unfaithful wife. Despite a... these facts, many portions of th... film are rather boring and th... viewer finds his mind wanderin... away or his fingers itching to lig... a cigarette.

The film ends with th... annexation of Oudh by th... British, while the two nawab... continue to be obsessed with thei... chess game, oblivious of th... political and social upheava... around them.

It is difficult to determine wh... Ray suddenly switched to ... historical theme after enjoyi... years of appreciation and succes... with social themes. Innovation ... a film producer is a quality to b... admired, but unfortunately in thi... film, it has resulted in many ... uninteresting sequences.

The public mode of reaction t... the film is very interesting. ... Bearing in mind always that th... name attached to Shatranj K... Khiladi is that of Satyajit Ray ... there are some admirers wh... faithfully proclaim "It is ye...

Successful open house in Toronto

Between 300-400 persons packed the Commonwealth Hall of Holiday Inn (Don Valley-Eglinton) on Sunday November 19. They were there to attend the "Open House" organized jointly by the Indian Immigrant Aid Services and "New Delhi 1978" Planning Committee.

The purposes of this event were to report to the community on the activities and achievements of the IIAS; the success of the New Delhi Pavilion in the 1978 Metro Caravan, the contribution of volunteers, and the future goals and objectives of the organization. The "Open House" was also an occasion to recognize the contribution of volunteers to the success of the IIAs and "New Delhi 1978" Pavilion.

The "Open House" is an annual event. What was remarkable this year was the very high turnout of people. The IIAs Joint Secretary, Magan Ambasana, took the opportunity to announce that Hon. Roy McMurtry, the Attorney General of Ontario, and Hon. Martin O'Connell, Liberal MP from Scarborough and Federal Minister, had been conferred Honorary Life Membership in IIAS in recognition of their help and support to the Indian community. Mr. O'Connell was present. Another highlight of the evening was the award for outstanding service to the community. This award, instituted only this year, was given on the basis of nominations received from IIAs members.

Dr. Sarup Rana, IIAS Vice President, announced that this year's award - the very first to be given - had gone to Dr. A Chaudhuri. Dr. Chaudhuri, who is the First President of IIAs, was present to receive the award.

Perhaps the most touching event was the recognition of the activities of the IIAs Globe Rangers Club. Ratan Panda, IIAs Executive Director, gave a detailed account of the origins and growth of the Globe Rangers Club. He paid special tribute to its young members for their energy, dedication and commitment to their club. Martin O'Connell presented the cups to members of the club which was runner-up in the Dashmesh Soccer Tournament, sponsored by Toronto's Sikh Society.

In addition to these, Shish Sinha, Secretary of the IIAs, reviewed the work of the IIAs and publicly recognized the work of the volunteers and the staff. On behalf of the "New Delhi 1978" Planning Committee, Vijay Raina spoke about the success of our Pavilion. The evening ended with a light refreshment.

Ray's Hindi movie

SHATRANJ KE KHILADI

By: Manjula Das (Parakot)

Satyajit Ray's maiden Hindi venture Shatranj Ke Khiladi [chess-players] based on a novel by Premchand, makes metaphorical references to the game of chess to denote skin strategies, manoeuvres and diplomacy employed in Indo/British politics, family relationships and social friendships during the 1800s. The film, partly in Hindi and partly in English, is quite different from Ray's other productions, most of which have been intensely social themes concentrating on characterization, and wherein Ray's subtle genius as a director has found optimum expression.

In Shatranj Ke Khiladi the audience is treated to intermittent flashes of Ray's directorial genius, fine photography, as well as the excellent histrionic talents displayed by Sanjeev Kumar and Sayeed Jaffrey as chessplaying nawabs, Richard Attenborough as General Outram, Amjad Khan as the ruler of Oudh and Farida Jalal as an unfaithful wife. Despite all these facts, many portions of the film are rather boring and the viewer finds his mind wandering away or his fingers itching to light a cigarette.

The film ends with the annexation of Oudh by the British, while the two nawabs continue to be obsessed with their chess game, oblivious of the political and social upheaval around them.

It is difficult to determine why Ray suddenly switched to a historical theme after enjoying years of appreciation and success with social themes. Innovation in a film producer is a quality to be admired, but unfortunately in this film, it has resulted in many uninteresting sequences.

The public mode of reaction to the film is very interesting. Bearing in mind always that the name attached to Shatranj Ke Khiladi is that of Satyajit Ray, there are some admirers who faithfully proclaim "it is yet another mark of his excellence", some who grimace involuntarily and say in public "very interesting and different" although in close intimate circles they assert that it was boring indeed. Then there are a few, a negligible minority, who amid resentful glances and disapproving looks from others, insist very boldly "for a Ray film, parts of Shatranj Ke Khiladi were very monotonous".

I recently had the opportunity to see Ray's Bengali film "Sonar Kella" [Golden Fort] which by all standards is a brilliant production. In comparison however, Shatranj Ke Khiladi was rather disappointing. In a recent television interview Ray expressed an interest in producing yet another Hindi film based on the historical Moghul character Dara. Satyajit Ray's audiences keenly look forward to this production with many expectations of his usual directorial excellence.

Human rights and politics

New Delhi, Dec. 30 (UNI): External Affairs Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee called for depoliticalisation of the human rights issue and said that "any attempt to revive the old war atmosphere on the question of human rights will be self-defeating."

Speaking at a function to observe human rights Day organised by the Indian Federation of United Nations Association, Mr. Vajpayee said, "all societies and social systems suffer from some deficiencies. A 'holier than thou attitude' only generates unnecessary antagonism."

Any selective approach to human rights violation would be viewed as motivated by extraneous consideration, Mr. Vajpayee said. Therefore while championing its cause one must remember that human rights could flourish only in times of peace, and in a climate of conflict they become the first casualty.

Russian drama in Bengali

By: Manjula Das (Parakot)

Anton Chekov's well-known drama "Anniversary", which has been translated and successfully presented by the Bohurupee Group of Calcutta was recently staged by members of Prabasi. The one-act play was directed by Dibyendu Ghosh, who made a successful come-back to Bengali dramatic circles following a long illness. Under his able direction, the play was well co-ordinated and all the roles were enacted effectively.

The Bengali title was "The other day at the Bangalakhi Bank". The scene opens with the Secretary of the Bank [Tapas Mukherjee] preparing a report for the Bank Manager [Ashok Mukherjee]. He is interrupted in his efforts by his peon Bhola [Ashok Chatterjee] and the Manager's wife Anila [Mita Banerjee] who clamours aimlessly and ceaselessly on her adventures. She is followed by Kedarbabu who approaches the Bank Manager for assistance in receiving compensation from her husband's insurance firm. The situation leads to an interesting climax where the frustrated secretary threatens to chase the women away without success.

Although all the roles were played well, special mention must be made of Shipra Ray [Kadambini] who started her role as a piteous, pleading, whining old woman and suddenly switched over to a demanding and aggressive shrew. The quick and very effective changes were enjoyed by the audience.

Adaptations from plays in other languages seem to be appreciated and well-received by audiences here. Dibyendu Ghosh should continue using his talent and skill in directing many more such interesting presentations.

CIA link denied

New Delhi (IBS) — Prime Minister Morarji Desai charged that Congress (I) member Pranab Kumar Mukherjee's allegation in the Rajya Sabha a week earlier that 24 Indian journalists were on payroll of the CIA was motivated by a desire to "malign respectable people."

Desai added that if the insinuation had been made outside the House, "he (Mukherjee) would have had to face the consequences."

The reply of Information and Broadcasting Lal Advani and the Prime Minister's intervention in a short notice question in the Rajya Sabha on alleged financing of Indian editors and newsmen by CIA revealed that the Government's inquiries here and in Washington had proved that there was no US Senate Committee report naming Indian journalists as having received money from CIA, as alleged by Mukherjee.

Desai felt that the dignity of the House and of members should be maintained by avoiding such libellous charges. He agreed with Congress(S) member Rafiq Zakaria that inquiries should be held regarding the authorship of the document, supposed to have emanated from Geneva and quoted by Mukherjee, and smuggled into India apparently to demoralise the Indian press.

Taj rum goes south

If ever a drink has changed its personality over the years -- and profited from the change -- that drink is rum. And Taj, newest of rums on the American scene, carries the personality shift into a totally new dimension which should ensure its success.

Taj is a light, distilled over 72 times, 80-proof rum made from 100-percent sugar cane. It's called "the rum of the rajahs" by Brihan-Maharashta, the Poona, India, sugar syndicate which is its parent. And it lives up to the slogan: Taj has an elegant aroma and delicate afterglow which assure it a strong post position in the distilled-spirits sweepstakes.

After successful launch and test marketing in Canada and New Jersey, it is now being introduced nationwide in the U.S.

"Our tests in the sophisticated and sensitive New Jersey market," says Shelley M. Zeiger, president of Taj Importers Ltd., "have confirmed to our complete satisfaction that the American consumer welcomes the special character of Taj rum. We expect it to demonstrate immediate strength in all major metropolitan markets."

Vijay Rajendra, a member of the Board of Directors and Vice President of Brihan, echoes the sentiment, adding: "We've always known it was the greatest rum in the world. It's the first premium rum to be made from 100 percent sugar cane, distilled 72 times and aged five years -- with all the love of the people of India."

Taj is expected to benefit from the rising tide of popular acceptance of rum in the market. From a 2-percent share in 1960, it has become the fastest-growing distilled beverage in the U.S. market. More than five times as much rum is consumed today as in 1960; more than 50 percent more than in 1970. And an increase of 25 percent in volume is confidently predicted for the next two years.

In fact, rum's compounded annual market growth rate over the past several years has been ten percent or better, higher than any other type of distilled spirits. And the growth rate is expected to continue high into the 1980s.

The obvious reason for the growing popular acceptance of rum is the overwhelming shift in preference among American consumers toward "white spirits." Vodka, colorless, almost odorless, virtually tasteless, has become the nation's number-one best seller. Even among such former market leaders as bourbon, rye and scotch, the lighter brands tend to be preferred.

And once rum distillers began to feature lighter varieties, rum began a steady climb in popularity, since it adds to the lightness of a vodka a distinctive character of its own.

Taj is riding on that trend. Its lightness is apparent in its clarity -- almost completely colorless, with just the faintest roseate blush, like a pink diamond. And its flavor, light and easy on the palate, is nonetheless distinct from all familiar Western Hemisphere rums. The difference is all on the side of elegance.

On the strength of the New Jersey test and the prior market acceptance of Taj in Canada, Knickerbocker Liquors Corp. has negotiated the wholesale distributorship for the New York region. Knickerbocker is one of the strongest and most experienced of the area's liquor wholesalers, handling Park & Tilford among other major lines.

"We're proud to have Knickerbocker include Taj along with the other fine brands it represents," Zeiger states. "And we're also pleased to announce that Taj will be among the selections to be promoted by three of the New York region's strongest associations of independent promotional liquor retailers: Buy-Rite, Price Cutirs and Foremost."

Jeanne Fernandes - Official T A J Hostess

Hindus confused at Western style Hinduism

By Ron Santana

The holy river Ganges which washes away the sins of millions of Hindus flows westward too.

In the last couple of decades there has been a considerable revival of interest in the teachings of one of the world's oldest religions, Hinduism, in North America. The westward flow of Ganga, Jamuna, Krishna, and Godavari, has brought gurus with their wispy beards and beads, dressed in flowing saffron robes to the new world, some making sweeping claims such as the 'dawning of the era of enlightenment on North America'. Spiritual franchises, fashioned after the take-out fried chicken outlets, have sprung up all over North America with their publicity campaigns well directed in the national news media by professional PR men and women.

In the wake of the suicide ritual at Jonestown in Guyana, many alien cults in operation in the U.S. and Canada have come under the clouds of suspicion in a predominantly Christian society.

The government of Ontario has launched an official investigation into the operation of scores of cults in operation within the province.

In comparison to the several maniacal cults and 'temples' preaching anything from fresh air to fantasy, the cults based on Hinduism appear to be more spiritual and peaceful. Some cults, however, distort Hindu teachings to their advantage and make it sound more like a military/religious philosophy. For instance, Lord Krishna's battlefield preaching to Arjuna to kill the bad guys, even if they happened to be his cousins and relatives, have been taken out of context by some. Some cults are asking their young followers, "Will you kill your parents?" To some of the WASP parents who bring up their kids giving them all their love and affection, nothing could be more alarming if someone asked their kids to be prepared to kill their parents.

The teenagers who are most likely to look for answers in alien teachings often are attracted by the completely different lifestyles followed by some cults and join the cults sincerely looking for a meaning to life. The Hare Krishna movement which has millions of followers in North America offers an interesting lifestyle. The devotees of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (Hare Krishna), mostly young, wearing yellow robes, their heads shaved except for a handful of hair left at the top, are a common sight in several American and Canadian cities. They sing and dance chanting, "Hare Rama, Hare Krishna" for hours together. Their daily schedule is as follows:

3.45 a.m. - rise, shower, and dress
4.30 - chant
5.45 - read about Krishna
8.30 - communal breakfast
9.00 - temple cleaning
10.00 - work; some to street chanting, some to incense factory, etc.
4.00 p.m. - afternoon meal
5.00 - afternoon work
6.00 - second shower
7.00 - evening worship ceremony; chanting, dance, offering
10.00 - sleep

It is doubtful even the most orthodox Hindu has a daily regime such as the one followed by the happy, contented members of the Hare Krishna cult who are mostly from families that probably gave them a new car on their eighteenth birthdays. They go about their tasks with deadly earnestness and sincerity that is sometimes absent in the country-club atmosphere of Indian temples where women go to show off their latest acquisitions in jewels, fashions, and other worldly goods and young men go to look at young women. The following joke in a South Indian newspaper summarizes the attitude of the temple-going youth in India.

One young lady to her girlfriend: Did you see the guy who looked like Gemini Ganesan (A south Indian film hero) at the temple last night?

The friend: Oh, no, I somehow missed him.

Young lady: I thought you never missed a good-looking guy whenever you went to the temple.

Fearful of the influence of alien cults, some Canadian parents brought the notorious deprogrammer Ted Patrick to reclaim their kids from such peaceful groups as the Hare Krishna people. The Canadian government, however, did not see the need for deprogrammers such as the American Patrick and deported him back to the States ordering him never to come back to Canada as his methods clearly infringed on the religious freedom guaranteed under the Canadian Bill of Rights.

The Hindus living in North America are amused by the interest taken by some of these cults in their religion and confused on the other hand by their street corner calls to shun materialism. Most of the Hindus are in North America simply because they were lured to the land of opportunity by its abundant material wealth anyway. The confusion arises as a result of a conflict posed by the Hindu enjoyment of color television, comfortable cars, suburban bungalows, and a healthy bank account in the land of the dollar bill and the path chosen by the children of materialism who think a Hindu should go about his or her life with a shaven head and a begging bowl.

A Kojak hairdo may or may not be your cup of tea. It certainly is not very practical especially if you live in northern U.S. or Canada, as you are likely to freeze your brains in 40 below temperature, even if you like to follow the North American version of Hinduism.

A look at the westward flow of Hinduism suggests that it did not start recently. The 'Ramakrishna Mission', 'vedanta Societies' and the 'Self-Realization Fellowship' are among the pioneers who brought Hinduism over the Atlantic. The Vedanta Society of New York was founded by Vivekananda in 1896 which attracted prominent Americans like Sarah Bernhardt, Nicolas Tesla, Paul Carus, and Ella Wheeler Wilcox. The movement also attracted novelists Aldous Huxley and Christopher Isherwood.

The Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's Transcedental Meditation Movement gives you a personal mantra, then you practice meditation, and meet daily with a small group to discuss your experiences for the next three days. The Maharishi says if only ten percent of the world's population were to start meditation, the spiritual effects would be so great as to end war and strife as well as bringing down the crime rate.

[Ron Santana is a freelance writer]

Vedanta lectures in Toronto

Swami Sarvagatananda, a monk of Sri Ramakrishna order, Head of Ramakrishna Vedanta Society, Boston Centre, will give two public lectures in Toronto.

"Sri Ramakrishna: The World Teacher" (8 p.m. on Tuesday, January 9th 1979 at 12 MacPherson Avenue, Toronto.)

"The Path of Divine Love" (8 p.m. on Wednesday, January 10th 1979 at 12 MacPherson Avenue, Toronto.)

Admission is free.

Lectures are organized by Vedanta Society of Toronto.

ASSOCIATION WELCOMES NEW YEAR

Montreal: - The Cultural Association of Friends of Kerala will welcome the new year with a meeting, supper and variety entertainments.

The variety show will reflect the cultural life of India. Earlier in the year the association observed **Onam.**

The other activities of the Cultural Association of Friends of Kerala include language classes in French and Malayalam.

It is more than a year since the members started the language courses. The association is planning to expand its activities including the opening of a library and reading room.

SIGNIFICANT SOLAR CELL

New Delhi (IBS) - The Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, has announced that its scientists have developed the most efficient solar cell that converts sunlight into electricity.

Canada's Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau and some of his cabinet ministers are among the followers of the Maharishi who transcended on the world spiritual scene after the Beatles, at the peak of their popularity, became his desciples.

The international Sivananda Yoga Society founded by Swami Sivananda had an ambitious desciple in Swami Vishnu Devananda, who achieved international recognition when he flew over Israeal and Egypt a few years ago bombing those countries with rose petals in order to bring peace to the area. He runs an ashram in the Laurentian mountains near swinging Montreal in Canada

He is reported to have become too fat of late and unable to perform even some of the easiest yoga exercises while he teaches hatha yoga, raja yoga, and kundalini yoga, making a bundle in the process.

The Montreal Forum that has witnessed such NHL superstars like Guy Lafleur in action, saw yet another spiritual superstar when the Guru Maharaji was at the Forum a couple of years ago. His followers kissed the young guru's lotus feet in divine ecstasy. He has taken over his father's business after a bitter family feud.

The spiritual industry, like the oil industry, enjoys one of the best tax shelters possible in both the U.S. and Canada. Religion has become a consumer good for which there seems to be an ever-increasing demand in North America, but with very little protection for the consumer.

[Ron Santana is a freelance writer]

Mehta and Ustad at their best

By Thomas Paulose

Montreal: - Zubin Mehta conducted music for the Montreal Symphony Orchestra. Ustad Ali Akbar played sarod at Concordia University in Montreal. They were the two Indian musicians to visit the city recently.

Zubin Mehta is considered one of the finest Beethoven interpretets. At the helm of the Montreal Symphony Orchestra, he clearly showed what it means to have an entire symphony in one's grasp.

It is an ability that he shares with only a few conductors. If the Indian conductor's intentions were obviously in evidence, it was because the orchestra also responded to them with the requisite energy and discipline.

Mehta, 42, was born on the day Toscanini gave his last concert at the helm of the New York Philharmonic orchestra. He is now the director of that prestigious musical team.

Meanwhile, Ustad Ali Akbar played sarod to a packed audience at Concordia University.

Perhaps it was the first time that many people in Montreal had a chance to listen to the melodious tone of sarod.

The musician captivated the attention of the audience of a number of music lovers and students of music.

This is also the first time that Ustad Ali Akbar is prforming in Montreal. He has played the instrument for many years in other cities.

Doing business with USA

New Delhi - India's Commerce Minister Mohan Dharia told Parliament recently that the country's export earnings from the USA during 1978-79 would be more than twice the amount in 1971-72; 25 per cent more than the Rs. 12,000 million ($1500 million) earned in 1977-78.

While this sounds good, Indian's realise that these figures are nowhere near the country's potential in exports or the USA's capacity to absorb imports from India.

US negotiators have made the point more than once that protectionism in the USA is far less strident than in certain other Western countries.

They have pointed out that India has not seized all available opportunities. In engineering goods, for example, India exports only a quarter of the number of items that can be marketed in the USA.

The fact is that Indian marketing efforts are woefully inadequate even in items for which there is demand in the USA. There is no running survey of the market or tailoring of products to the changing needs and fashions of the consumer, one reason why countries like South Korea and Taiwan are able to do better than India.

If one is a realist despite polite references to such possibilities on formal occasions, the prospect of direct U.S. private investment in India in any but the most sophisticated technological areas is remote. But there is no reason why India should not explore possibilities of tie-ups with distributive and trade agencies in the USA for its products.

Despite these handicaps, a considerable step-up in the bilateral trade between India and the U.S. can be, expected.

Institutional arrangements like a standing committee to keep a close watch on promotion or trade between the two countries is contemplated. It may monitor information to exporters in both the countries regarding market analysis, product development and adaptation.

THE FACTS

An objective review shows that the biggest chunk of Indian imports comes from the U.S. U.S. is the second largest market, after the Soviet Union, for Indian goods. Even so, India's share in the total U.S. annual imports amounts to an infinitesimal 0.57 per cent. More than half the items bought from India even consist of traditional goods like jute and cotton manufactures, cashewnut, tea, coffee, sugar and spices. It is only recently that there has been a limited flow of non-traditional items like engineering goods.

All along there has been an adverse balance of trade. 1976-1977, the deficit was Rs. 5079 million ($635 million) in view of the stoppage of foodgrains import, this is likely to show a sharp decline in 1977-78. Even so, the U.S. would continue to be a major supplier of organic and inorganic chemicals, construction and mining equipment, machinery and electrical so on.

RECENT TALKS

The recent visit to New Delhi of the U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Mrs. Juanita Kreps, was helpful in exploring various ways of stepping up two-way trade. India has already liberalised imports policies in the expectation that it would be possible to import dynamism to its exports through easier access to the markets of the developed countries including the U.S. has been odd.

However, there are a wide variety of non-tariff barriers imposed by the U.S. on a number of items of export interest to India. The U.S. maintains quantitative restrictions on a number of industrial and agricultural products and mineral fuels. One hopes these could be removed to facilitate greater exports.

There should also be more liberal and freer trading environment for labour intensive products like handlooms and handicrafts. It is obvious that any threat to the U.S. economy can come only from trading giants like Japan and West Germany and not from a developed country like India.

"DEEAR PARK" ON SABARMATI BANKS

Gandhinagar, Dec. 24 (UNI) - A young deer was released by Gujarat Governor Sharda Mukherjee to formally inauguarate a Deer Park at Indroda, four km from here.

The five-hectare Park is part of the prestigious natural History Museum Project sanctioned by the Gujarat Government.

KITCHEN
By Pra

As a food columnist, it is my
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THULASI, BOX 7850, STANF

d Ustad
best

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KITCHEN KORNER
By Pranati SenGupta

As a food columnist, it is my job to keep you up-to-date about what's going on in our food-world. Recently there has been a great deal of concern with the decrease of fibre in our diet. There is no doubt in my mind that we should eat more unrefined foods. But excessive amounts of fibre also upsets a normal balance in the body. I've often heard complaints about the "junk" foods, but as I recall there was a time when affluent people never touched whole wheat bread, not just in India, but around the world because it was for the poor. Fortunately the rich were able to balance their missed nutrients in the bread with plenty of other foods. When I was young, I was quite facinated with Moghlai cuisine (equivalent to French classic cuisine) which was rich, delicious and very expensive. I always felt that the villagers and farmers in India were very poorly fed when I read of them sitting down with a big bowl of dal (lentil soup) and chapatties (baked whole wheat bread). In my youthful ignorance, that seemed to be a very cheap meal knowing that peasants ate baked whole wheat bread while the rich ate the fried white bread; that idea stayed with me until I came to Canada and met a group of people who were interested in nutrition. Since then, I have learned a lot about nutrition.

Even though the body's chief fuel is glucos, we do not need additional sugar for our energy. Our body can manufacture this glucos from starches, fruits, vegetables, milk and grains. Did you know that there is a big switch even in French cuisine today? The basis of this new French cuisine (slimming cookery) is to minimize or eleminate altogether such high calorie ingredients as butter, cream, shell-fish, red meat and most sugar except that which comes naturally from fruits.

Almost every magazine that appears on the newstands announces a new diet - some more credible than others. Vegetarianism is more than a fad. For many people it's a way of life, they will always be vegetarians and they will raise their children to be vegetarians. But a vegetarian must include dairy products to balance his diet. Abundant protein is easily provided by a vegetarian diet along with many other nutrients not supplied by meat. Many plant foods contain large amounts of high-quality protein; these include dried peas, beans and other legumes, nuts, seeds and cereal grains. Many vegetables including lima beans, potatoes and green peas, as well as some fruits, such as dates and avocadoes, also have a bit of protein. When two or more of these foods are eaten in a meal, the proteins complement each other and are nearly equivalent to a serving of meat. An ideal combination would be brown bread, lentils, cheese, and tomatoes as this would supply all the nutrients required by the body. Therefore Indian chapati and dal (enriched with cheese) are not only a vegetarian's delight but provides a most nourishing and budget stretching meal.

Thulasi

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Overseas Indians want their MP

Ras Al Khaimah (UAE) (IBS) - Indian passport-holders living abroad should have their representatives nominated to the Rajya Sabha and the Kerala and Punjab assemblies, according to the Indian Non-resident Depositors Association, a powerful financial lobby of overseas Indians.

A representation to this effect has been made to visiting Kerala Ministers, C.H. Mohammad Koya and Baby John, here.

A delegation of the association also suggested abolition of the office of Protector of Emigrants in India.

The delegation wanted suitable amendments to the Income Tax Act in respect of non-resident Indian besides the installation of an international telephone exchange at Calicut.

Diplomat reprimanded

New Delhi (IBS) — A Yugoslav diplomat was summoned by the External Affairs Ministry and severely reprimanded, and warned not to come to adverse notice in future, for whipping an Indian on a Delhi road recently.

Minister of State for External Affairs Samarendra Kundu told the Rajya Sabha that the diplomat struck the Indian national with a whip on Sept. 17 following an altercation.

He said that the matter was brought to the notice of the Yugoslave Ambassador and the dean of the Diplomatic Corps. The Indian national concerned had received a letter of apology from the Yugoslav.

Birla book on Gandhiji

London (IBS) — Nobel Peace Prize winner Lord Noel-Baker described Mahatma Gandhi as the "man of the century" and bracketed him with Confucius, the Buddha and Mohammed while releasing a set four volumes by one of India's top industrialists G.D. Birla. "Bapu- A Unique Association" - a collection of about 1,500 letters and detailed records of meetings with some leading personalities of the world from 1924 to 1947.

Lord Noel-Baker also recalled the Mahatma's dictum that "the only true liberation is the liberation that liberates the oppressor and the oppressed."

Birla said that he had been impressed in his time by two individuals - Mahatma Gandhi and Winston Churchill - who were very different and yet similar in basic sincerity, honesty, humanity and in their command over language which enabled expression of extensive thought and feeling.

Endangered species

New Delhi, Dec. 30 (UNI): The Black buck, chinkara and golden langur, besides tiger, lion and the indian elephant, are among the mammals in this country threatened with extinction.

The list of endangered species of Indian wild life includes 65 mammals, 22 amphibians and reptiles and 38 birds.

Special protection is given to these species under the wild life (protection) act which has now been adopted by all states, except Nagaland. Besides, the export trade of most of the threatened species has been controlled, particularly after India became party to an international convetion in 1976.

The delegation sought to allay fears that remittances from the Gulf would cause inflation in the best be checked by an increase in production.

The delegation felt that the Kerala Goverament should set up an expert committee with representatives of overseas Indians on it for the judicious and pragmatic utilisation of the foreign exchange being remitted from abroad.

The Central Government import policy should enable u isation of at least 25 per cent the yearly remittances for imp licences for capital goods, th suggested.

Exporters of indian goo already enjoy similar facilities the form of replenishment lic ces.

Malayalis and Gulf money

Trivandrum, (UNI): Two Kerala Ministers, Baby John and C.H. Mohammed Koya began a tour of the Gulf countries to explore the possibility of canalising, for productive investment in the state, crores of rupees being remitted to the State every year by the emigrant Malayalees.

Among the proposals being put forward by the Government to mobilise the remittances, estimated to be between Rs. 300 and 400 crores a year, was the setting up of a non-banking finance agency which would receive deposits from Gulf Malayalees, either in lump sum or as cumulative time deposits guaranteed by the State Government.

The proposal was still to get clearance from the Reserve Bank of India, Mr. Koya and Mr. John told newsmen here.

Mr. John said the avalanche Gulf money, which began in wake of the oil boom, was in threatening the very foundat of the economy of Kerala. It estaimted that only 5.7 per cen the remittances was used productive purposes while rest went for non-produc investment like purchase of la construction of building: other conspicuous consumpti This had created inflation trends in the state and life h become almost impossible f people in some areas, he said.

Mr. John said it was essential that some sort of financial discipline and organization was introduced in the savings and expenditure pattern of the Gulf Malayalees.

Dialysis cell developed

Bombay, Dec. 5 (UNI): A student of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) here, hailing from Sri Lanka, has developed a special mini-electrodialysis cell.

C.K. Deshpande, dean, G.S. Medical College and Kemps hospital, told newsmen that the equipment made by Mr. P. Radhakrishnan had been successfully experimented on dogs and would soon bring succour to patients.

Explaining the detailed functioning of the device, Mr. Radhakrishnan, also present at the news conference, said the mini-electrodialysis cell could be implanted in a jacket with electrical circuit and connected to the thoracic duct of the patient.

The jacket could be worn by the patient as a "wearable artificial kidney" which could go on continuously even when the patient was at work.

Dr. Deshpande explained the entire scientific basis of this new concept with specially designed posters.

He said this work was presented by the Sri Lanka student at the annual meeting of the Indian Society of Nephrology in January this year and was well received.

More jumbos for Air India

New Delhi (IBS) - The Central Government has approved Air India's proposal for the purchase of three Boeing 747 aircraft, Minister for Tourism and Civil Aviation Purshottam Kaushik informed the Lok Sabha.

Kaushik also told the House that Air India and Indian Airlines were jointly planning to introduce the computer system for quick reservations. At present Air India participates in the British Airways computer system in the United Kingdom, Europe and the United States.

Police station for London Bengalis

London (IBS) - Britain's Home Secretary Merlyn Rees has opened a police station in the East End designed to protect the local Asian community, mainly people from Bangladesh.

The station, in Brick Lane in the inner London borough of Tower Hamlets, is manned by three young metropolitan policemen with an Asian police constable "Joe" Gohil, as station interpreter.

The main purpose of the station is to overcome the difficulties which arise inevitably from the fact that many of the estimated 15,000 to 20,000 Bengalis living around Brick Lane speak little or no English and have been reluctant to go to ordinary police stations with their complaints.

Asian games in India

New Delhi Dec 31 (UNI): The Union Government has agreed to host the Asian Games in New Delhi in 1983.

India's readiness in this regard will be made known at the eighth Asian Games at Bangkok.

It is understood that the government might have to incur an expenditure of Rs. 15 crores to Rs. 20 crores for the purpose.

The original bid to hold the Asiad here was made during the 1976 olympic Games in Montreal at the request of the then government

The Union Education Ministry had subsequently turned down the proposal, committed earlier by the government, on the plea of heavy expenditure.

The revised estimate for staging the Games by the present ministry were placed at over 20 crores.

The proposal was revived at the initiative of Mr. V.K. Malhotra, vice president of the Indian Olympic Association (IDA) and president of the Delhi Olympic Association and Archery Association of India.

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rimonial correspondence ed from professional Canadian U.S.A. settled gentlemen of h faith for my sister, 40 (looks uch younger), 5'-2", Canadian citizen, good natured, slim, fair complexioned, well accomplished in English, Urdu, Punjabi and Hindi languages and household. Apply with recent photograph and particulars in confidence to M-1491, The Canadian India Times.

Wanted suitable match for a Ramgarhia Sikh girl, 22, M.A. English, 5'-1". Please forward full particulars with returnable photograph to M-1492, The Canadian India Times.

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HARYANA BUFFALOES EARN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

Karnal (IBS) - Export of Haryana buffaloes brings in foreign exchange worth Rs 1,000 million annually, according to State Governor H.S. Brar.

Sikh conference 1979

All the major Sikh Societies in Ontario are participating in the organization of the Sikh Conference 1979. Apart from participants from Ontario, it is expected to attract delegates and observers from other provinces in Canada and United States. The Conference is scheduled for March 24 & 25, 1979 and will be held at the Inn on the Park in Toronto.

The organizers hope to achieve their target of creating a mechanism by which Sikhs in various centres can communicate between themselves and share ideas, views and experiences.

All the Sikhs are invited to make every effort to attend the Conference and forward their suggestions and ideas to the Planning Committee in order that these be integrated into the Conference format. All people of goodwill belonging to other faiths and traditions are also invited to share their views.

There are seven workshops proposed for the duration of the two day conference namely, (1) Sikh Children and their education, (2) Sikhs in Professions, (3) Relation of Sikhs with other Communities, (4) Sikh Women, (5) Sikhs in Small Towns, (6) Communication between Sikhs in various Centres, and (7) Unique Identity of the Sikhs.

Apart from these, research papers are expected to be presented at the sessions and discussed in workshops.

For further information and registration an office has been established with Sardar Hardev Singh as Co-Ordinator. He can be contacted by telephone or by writing to 696 Yonge Street - Suite 205, Toronto, Ontario M4Y 2A7 - Tele. (416) 922-8443.

M.M. PHILIP DEAD

Coimbatore (IBS) - Former Director General of Posts and Telegraphs, M.M. Philip died here Tuesday, Dec. 5. He was 74.

Philip, who joined the Indian Civil Service in 1928, retired from Government service in 1964 but held important assignments as chairman of ITI, HMT and Bharat Earth Movers.

CONGRESS(S) WINS SANDESH SEAT

Patna (IBS) - Congress (S) wrested Sandesh seat in the Bihar Assembly from the Janata Party, beating off the challenge of Congress (I) in a keen fight which resulted in the forfeiture of deposit of the Janata candidate.

Polling 27,908 votes, Sonadharai (Cong-S) won by 5,012 votes from his nearest rival Tapeswar Singh (Cong-I) who secured 22,896 votes.

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New Delhi, Dec. 30 (UNI): Rich tributes were paid to C. Rajagopalachari and the people asked to emulate his qualities at various functions organized in the capital on Sunday to celebrate his birth centenary.

Addressing a public meeting in the morning, the president Sanjiva Reddy, said that Rajaji was a "pure man with brilliant ideas" and a great moralist who had the courage of his convictions.

Mr. Reddy said that Rajaji did not hanker after power and so had never canvassed for any office.

Born to:

Born to Dr. & Mrs. R.G. Chokshi of Sydney, N.S. a son Apoorve. Brother to Anang.

Rajaji praised

According to the president no one had done as much for the promotion of Hindi in South India as Rajaji. When the idea of linguistic states first came up, it was Rajaji who had called it a "tribal idea" which would lead to a dangerous situation. And this has now proved true, he added.

He stressed that it would be "honouring oneself if one could emulate some of the sterling qualities of Rajaji."

In a recorded speech, which was played at the Rajaji centen celebrations here, Mr. Jayaprakash Narayan said that even though he was a critic of Rajaji he nonetheless remained a great admirer of the qualities of his head and heart.

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